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NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine place a one-cent stamp on this notice, hand same to any postal employee and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers and sailors at the front. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW

Vol. 9. No. 1

SECOND TELEGRAPH BATTALION COLORS
Presented by the Women of the Traffic Department to the Second Telegraph Battalion S. C. U. S. R.

January, 1918

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AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN THE TRENCHES IN FRANCE

WATCHING A PASSING GERMAN AEROPLANE

The above pictures, showing American soldiers in the front-line trenches in France, are reproduced from *Le Miroir*, a French illustrated paper, in which they appeared November 18, 1917, a few days after General Pershing announced the first engagement of American troops with the enemy.

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The TELEPHONE REVIEW
New York January 1918
Volume 9 Number 1

The TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor

Published monthly by the New York Telephone Company, U. N. BETHELL, President; WALTER BROWN, Secretary and Treasurer. Publication Office and Principal Place of Business, 15 Dey Street, New York.

VOL. IX. JANUARY, 1918 No. 1

Resolve to Prepare

THERE are many lessons we should learn from observation before they are taught us by experience. Willingly or unwillingly we shall have to learn them, and the consequences will bear less heavily upon us, if we anticipate the necessity and are able to pass through the test when it comes, instead of failing through unpreparedness.

The new year is upon us, the time when it is customary to start off vigorously with a new set of good resolutions.

May we suggest that all of us resolve to prepare?

One thing we can prepare for is to do our work better and for the job ahead of us. A clerk recently asked for "more pay for the same work," on account of the high cost of living. The answer came back, "If you had done better work, it wouldn't be necessary to ask for a raise." The clerk was unprepared for better work, became dissatisfied, and left.

This is something entirely within our own control, war or no war, high cost of living or low; we can dig right down to the roots of our jobs and grow bigger than they are.

Another thing, by seeking out from among our acquaintances the best qualified, we can prepare to fill the places that become vacant in the company with people who are capable of becoming efficient workers and a credit to ourselves and the company. It is not only more pleasant to work alongside of people who are our equals, but it is more stimulating, and consequently more profitable for the company and for ourselves.

Then with our money we can resolve to save more. It has been predicted that in five years when the War Savings Stamps are redeemed, they will buy twice as much as what their cost will buy to-day. If you can't begin buying War Savings Stamps, start with Thrift Stamps at twenty-five cents each. If you smoke, indulge in a "smokeless day" and invest the money that way. Resolve not only to weather the financial strain, but to be prepared to take advantage of the financial opportunities which others turn into gain.

Nothing is more important than to prepare for the solution of the social and economic problems which are growing out of the war and those which will follow it. Resolve to study these questions. Experience is doing what theorizing could never do. Perhaps the world is going through the throes through which our country went in the days when our forefathers founded it, to prove once more that the principles of democracy which have made America great are better than the principles of autocracy which have helped to convulse Europe; that instead of America being better for the adoption of European methods, Europe would be better (and doubtless will be) for the adoption of American methods.

And may the New Year, and future years, be happier for us and for all the world.

War Savings

NOT long ago we came in touch with a man who was receiving a very small salary, and who was anxious to take advantage of an extraordinarily good business offer, although he felt that it would entail much hardship if he did so, as he was forced to live right up to the last cent of his salary. His wife was very much opposed to his putting himself under any further obligations, for she had never been able to save anything from their income. However, he was induced to pledge some of his salary in advance, and to their great astonishment, they found that when they were forced to plan ahead in order to live, they were better off than before, because they lived as well, and saved at the same time. Nothing but actual experience could have proved to them that, no matter how small one's salary may be, it is improvident to spend it all.

We all know that it is the easiest thing in the world to spend money if it is in one's pocket. A passing fancy, and "Pff"—it is gone. Has it ever happened to you? Then, why put it in your pocket? Fancies are all right, if we have no special reason for saving, but if we have, and we all have, let us guard against them and ourselves by putting that money where we cannot reach it, and where it can work for us, on Sundays as well as Mondays.

Put your hat on, run around the corner to the post-office, or bank, and buy some War Saving Stamps and Thrift Stamps! In five years from now, when Uncle Sam is paying you $5.00 for your $4.12, you can buy all the fancies you want. The war will be over then.

Gratitude for Smokes

ALL who have contributed to Mr. Thurber's Tobacco Fund for our Signal Corps men in France will be interested in the following letter acknowledging receipt of the second shipment of smokes, which, like the first, duly arrived and was so gratefully appreciated:

Headquarters
Second Telegraph Battalion,
Signal Reserve Corps,
December 8, 1917.

From: Headquarters 2nd Tel. Bn., S.R.C.
To: Mr. G. S. Weedon.
Subject: Second Tobacco Shipment.

1. Major Shearer directs that the receipt of the second shipment of tobacco for members of this organization be acknowledged, and that, through you, the Telephone Company be thanked for its thoughtfulness and interest in those of its employees now on leave of absence and in the military service in France.

2. The tobacco will be distributed at once, and it is unfortunate that the individual expressions of appreciation on the part of the soldiers cannot be literally transmitted to the Company, but it is hoped that this acknowledgment will indicate the measure of gratitude with which American tobacco is greeted.

G. EVERETT HILL, Jr.
1st Lieut., S.C., U.S.R.
Adjutant.

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"Looking Forward"

HAVE you ever had a desire that was so great that beside it everything else seemed small and insignificant? Perhaps it was a desire to have, to do, or even to be something that was almost—but not quite—beyond your reach. And did you sit down and wait for that desire to be realized? Or did you put all else aside and work for it with might and main? If it was worth anything at all, you took the latter course, letting other matters that seemed important before take a secondary place.

The Great Desire

ASK yourself to-day what you want most, and your answer will be "To win the war, and to win it soon." Are you going to win it by sitting still with your hands folded, and wishing? No! If you want to bring about victory, you must work for it—with heart and soul. If it is not worth labor, and self-denial, and sacrifice, it is not worth the winning. Our men are doing their share—by giving up the work into which they have put all their energies for years, by undergoing the rigors of camp life, by leaving their friends and people, and by purchasing bonds to help finance the war. Why do they do all these things, without hesitation or faltering? Because they have the clearness of vision to see that, without freedom, all these things are valueless.

What are you doing? Are you looking ahead into the future and working steadily and consistently towards attaining the Great Desire, or are you helping in fits and starts? Everyone is probably doing something, but the problem is to do the something that will be productive of the greatest good in the shortest time. The story of the hare and the tortoise is a little worn by constant use, but it is a good one to keep in mind, nevertheless. The hare makes a fine showing once in a while, but the little tortoise "gets there," and after all, the important thing is to "get there," is it not?

Spending All We Have

LIKE the hare and the tortoise, we have a race to run, but it is a race against ourselves. All our lives we have been accustomed to placing certain values upon the things that are a part of our daily existence. For instance, we take it for granted that we must live in a certain way,—not that we always stop to figure it out, by any means. Our home life resolves itself into a series of tasks, meals, pleasures, duties, et cetera, that works almost automatically. We take it for granted that we must have a certain kind of meal, a certain grade of clothing, specified amusements, and so on. When we received $600 a year we had one standard, and as our income increased, the standard underwent a change.

What determined the amount that we should spend upon food, clothing, shelter, or the hundred other things that enter into the regulation of our daily lives? The answer is obvious—our income. Whether we are rich or poor, there are certain things that we must have,—the things that are essential to life itself, such as food, clothing, and shelter,—and those that are part of our mental and spiritual life. The question which the war has put to everyone of us is, "How much of these things do we actually need, and how much do we think we need?" The answer will point out clearly the path that we must follow to attain our Great Desire—the path that will show us the way to stand behind our boys, strengthening them by the knowledge that we, too, are ready to make sacrifices, and big sacrifices at that, to reach our goal.

Saving With a Purpose

WE Americans, as a whole, do not know the meaning of the word sacrifice. Up to the present time, fortunately, it was not necessary for us to put all our attention upon saving the mighty dollar. We were free to look to other things. In itself, saving is no great virtue. But saving for a purpose such as ours,—saving to right the wrongs of the world, to put strength into our men, to put food into the mouths of hungry children, to restore life to exhausted nations,—there could be nothing greater.

"But we cannot save," you will say. "Already we can scarcely manage to get along, because of the high prices that now exist." Are you so sure that you cannot? Let us tell you a story about a private who is now in training at Spartanburg, South Carolina:

A Soldier's Experience

ONE morning, a short time after he had been in camp, he visited the captain of his regiment, and asked if he might make a request. He did not, he explained, wish to complain, or whine, nor did he desire the captain to think that he was not a good sport, ready to accept things as they were, but would it not be possible to have food just a little more like what the men had been accustomed to at home? A pudding, or a pie, once in a while, would go far toward putting the men in a better and happier frame of mind. The captain promised to submit the request, told the private that he was only too glad to have his men come to him with their problems and suggestions at any time, and the private departed, considerably cheered.

Three weeks later, as the captain was passing the man's quarters, where everyone was busily engaged, he saw the private, and called him. "About that request of yours," he started. "Forget all about it!" interrupted the man. "I don't know what ever tempted me to ask such a thing. I'm perfectly satisfied, and wouldn't change things if I could."

So soon do puddings go out of our lives! How about your pies and puddings? Do they mean more to you than the realization of your desire? Does a new bonnet or necktie, that you do not really need, the latest play, or a trolley-ride when you could easily walk, mean more to you than winning the war? They cannot! Give them up, and save, save, save. If you are poor, save! If you are rich, do likewise. The responsibility rests equally upon the shoulders of both. By using your brains you can save without hardship, you can help yourself, your men at the front, your country, and the sufferers abroad. Is it not worth a little inconvenience? Will it not be something to be able to say, "I did my share"? Then begin to-day, and never stop until the necessity is no more.

Plan With An Eye to the Future

START now to figure out just what your necessities and what your luxuries are. Is your income apportioned to meet your various needs in advance? Do you buy with an eye to the future, or do you live "from hand to mouth," as it were? Where does your money go? Before you set about changing your present methods, take an inventory of your stock, so that you can work out a scheme for simplifying your mode of living, eliminating your "pies and puddings," with the result that in these times of stress you will be able to have your necessities, and at the same time maintain your surplus. By making your income fit your actual needs, you will not only avoid the danger of spending all that you make, but will, in a new sense of the word, make more than you spend.

We must all come to it sooner or later; why not begin now?

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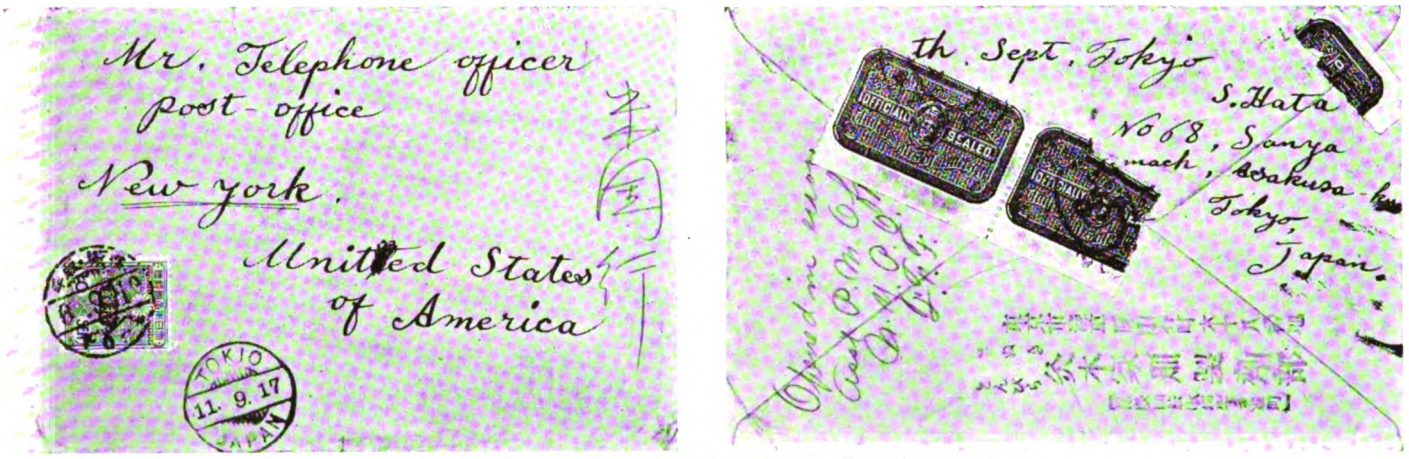
Seeing the "Wheels" Go Round

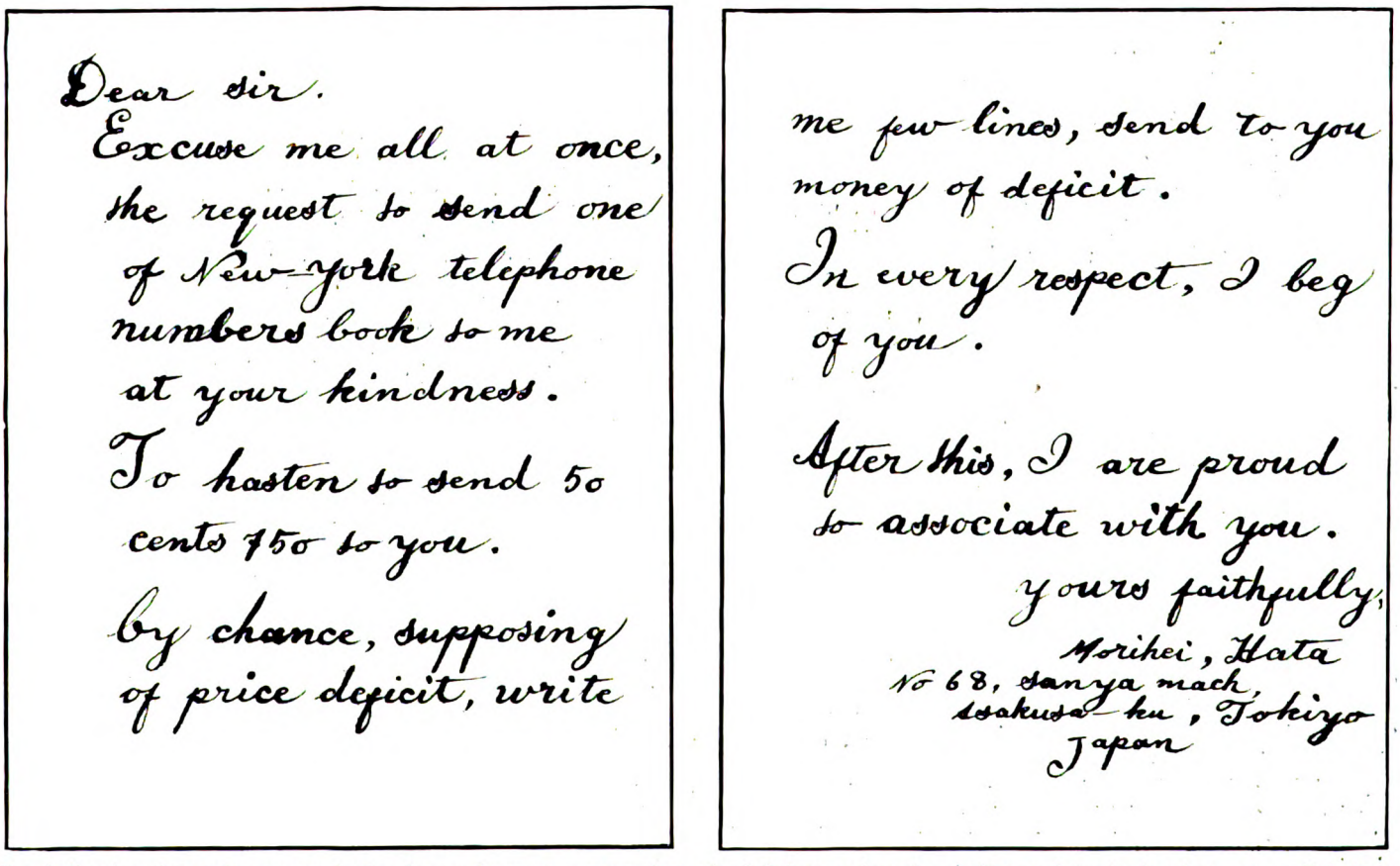
MOTION pictures are made at various times showing different activities in which the company is engaged, and these reels constitute valuable and interesting records which are of use in many ways. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the 11th, 12th and 13th of December, officials and employees of the company to the number of about eleven hundred were given a view of some of the latest of these productions at the Telephone Club.

Seven films in all were displayed. The first, called the "Whispering Wires of War," showed the work of the Signal Corps in training at Camp Alfred Vail, and included the visit of Mr. Theodore N. Vail and party, and Mr. Vail's good-bye to the telephone boys.

The next two films showed the laying of the Raritan Bay submarine cable, connecting Keansburg and Pleasant Plains, and the Tarrytown-Nyack cable across the Hudson River. Another film showed the construction of the new aerial cable line up the west bank of the Hudson to Albany. Two films were devoted to showing methods and machinery employed in clerical work in the Plant, Traffic, Accounting and Commercial Departments. Finally, pictures of Camp Upton, Yaphank, Long Island, were shown, giving views of the construction work performed by the telephone company, the arrival and departure of the young women operators in their "jitney," and other interesting phases of telephone work in a military cantonment.



Front and Back of Envelope Enclosing the Following Letter



Dear sir.
Excuse me all at once, the request to send one of New-york telephone numbers book to me at your kindness.
To hasten to send 50 cents 150 to you.
By chance, supposing of price deficit, write me few lines, send to you money of deficit.
In every respect, I beg of you.
After this, I are proud to associate with you.
yours faithfully,
Norihei, Hata
No 68, Sanya mach
Asakusa-ku, Tokiyo
Japan

Fac-simile of an interesting communication from a Japanese correspondent who failed to enclose the remittance, but who has been sent a Telephone Directory and a copy of "The Telephone Review," as he is proud to associate with us

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Presentation of Battalion Flags and National Colors to Second Battalion by Operators of Four Down-State Divisions

The Colors Presented to the Second Battalion by the Young Women Operators of the Four Down-State Divisions

THE Second Battalion of the Signal Reserve Corps, composed of men from the New York Telephone Company, now in France, will fight the Kaiser's invaders under colors provided by the young women of the Traffic Department. The operators of the four down-State divisions combined in purchasing these flags, and the ceremony of presentation took place in the offices of Vice-President F. H. Bethell, at 15 Dey Street. Although the battalion officers could not be there to receive the flags for their men, the program was in other respects complete, and letters describing it were forwarded to them in France so that all the boys might know what took place.

Gathering for the Ceremony

THE operators representing the down-state divisions assembled in the Conference Room, about three o'clock on the afternoon of November 27, and for a few minutes had the unusual opportunity of visiting together. There were representatives of traffic districts from Nyack to Asbury Park and from New Rochelle to Jamaica, as well as from the metropolitan districts, and to know each other face to face, as well as over the wires, was a privilege which the usual tenor of operating life does not afford.

With the arrival of the division superintendents of traffic, Mr. Morrell, Mr. Merrill, Mr. Yates, and Mr. Schultz, the party grouped itself more or less according to divisions. All the officials, except Mr. U. N. Bethell, and many representatives of the different departments of the New York Telephone Company were present when Miss Brennan, senior operator, Jersey Toll, holding the beautiful orange silk battalion flag, embroidered by the hand which fashions and decorates the banners of the President of the United States, took her place beside Mr. Schultz at the end of the long Directors' table, and made the presentation on behalf of the operators.

Miss Brennan said:

We have come to you, Mr. Schultz, in behalf of the operating forces to enlist your good offices in presenting these flags to our men now in our country's service, and to ask you to transmit our message to them.

"From our girls to our boys in appreciation of the great sacrifice they are making in upholding and protecting all that these emblems represent, all that civilization holds most dear.

"We want to tell you that your glorious service flag, with its thousands of stars, is ever waving before us, filling our hearts with affection and pride and inspiring us to do our bit with greater earnestness and loyalty.

"We, far from the 'firing line,' are ever thinking of you and praying that God in His infinite goodness will lead you to success and bring you home safely, making it possible that at the Home Roll Call each name called will meet with the response, 'Here'."

Mr. Schultz, accepting the banners on behalf of the absent officers and men, responded in these words:

Miss Brennan and ladies representing Traffic Department employees of this Company:

During my many years of experience I have been directed and requested to perform many acts that afforded me great pleasure, but I want to assure you that no task that I have ever been asked to perform affords me more pleasure than to accept this responsibility and to forward these beautiful flags and guidons and your expression of kind thoughts and noble sentiments from our girls over here to our boys over there.

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Speaking on behalf of the boys, knowing them as we all do, who have proved themselves good, loyal employees of this Company, we can feel quite sure that the same loyalty and fidelity will prevail in this great world conflict that they are now engaged in. I can safely say that they will uphold the honor, both of the flag, our own stars and stripes, and of these beautiful guidons which you are sending to them.

Mr. U. N. Bethell was unable to be present, but afterwards wrote a letter to Mr. Schultz in which he expressed his regrets and spoke in the warmest terms of the splendid action of the operators and his interest in the telephone boys in military service.

The Colors

THE colors presented included three flags and four guidons. Each of the two company guidons of silk for parade purposes was repeated in bunting for service, and there were also both a silk and a bunting American flag. The battalion flag was elaborately embroidered by hand, insignia and lettering being of solid embroidery and the stars of the silk American flag were also hand embroidered.

After all had had an opportunity to view the flags, and a picture had been taken, Mr. F. H. Bethell invited the guests into his private office to see pictures of some of "our boys." The Christmas box, like those which had been sent by the employees of the Company to our boys in the service, which Mr. Bethell had bought, was lying on the table, and the operators evinced much interest in seeing the various articles as Mr. Newman described them and the history of the whole idea and its execution.

Leaving the executive offices, the visiting operators were shown over the quarters of the Cortlandt, Jersey Toll, and Rector Central offices, the fine new rest rooms, and the dining room, at 15 Dey Street.

On Their Way

THE problem of getting the flags "across the water" to our boys on the other side was not a simple one, especially as it was desirable to have them reach their destination by Christmas. But by untiring writing and telephoning Mr. Schultz obtained the necessary letter from the Chief of Embarkation Service at Washington, D. C., to the Commanding General, Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, New Jersey. The letter which made it possible for the flags to be sent within a few days, reads thus:

November 30, 1917.

From: The Chief of Embarkation Service.
Washington, D. C.

To: The Commanding General, Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, New Jersey.

N. Y. Telephone Company, 15 Dey Street, New York City, are authorized to ship set of colors, approximately twelve cubic feet in volume, weight 150 pounds, properly marked, to the Second Telegraph Battalion, American Expeditionary Forces.

By authority of the Chief of Embarkation Service.

W. C. KOENIG,
Captain, C. A. S.,
Adjutant.

Accompanying the flags Mr. Schultz mailed pictures taken on the day of the presentation ceremony, and a personal letter to Major Shearer, describing the entire proceedings. The formal letter of transmission from Mr. Schultz to Major Shearer reads as follows:

December 31, 1917.

Major H. H. Shearer,
2nd Telegraph Battalion,
Signal Corps Reserve,
American Expeditionary Forces.

Dear Major:

I am shipping you today by way of the Commanding General, Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, N. J., a set of colors presented to your Battalion by the women of the Traffic Department of this Company.

I am attaching herewith talk given by Miss Brennan in presenting the colors and response by myself in behalf of the Battalion in accepting same. The pictures of the colors, taken in different groups, I am sending under separate cover.

Hoping for their safe arrival, and that you and all the boys are well, with kind greetings to all, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

H. J. SCHULTZ.

Next month, we hope, may come an account of their arrival in France, and of the ceremonies, if it were possible to have any, of their actual reception by our boys over there. It goes without saying that this latest message from home will put new spirit into already enthusiastic and sturdy hearts.

Operators and Officials of the Company at the Presentation of the Second Battalion Colors in the Offices of Mr. F. H. Bethell, at 15 Dey Street. In the Center, Miss Brennan, of Jersey Toll, Who Made the Presentation Speech, and Mr. Schultz, Who Accepted the Colors on Behalf of the Battalion

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Christmas Boxes Welcomed Joyfully

THOSE who have received the Christmas Box have lost no time in writing in to thank the givers. Letter after letter teems with the spirit of camaraderie that binds all those in the New York Telephone Company into one big family. It was a wonderful surprise, they write, but, after all, only what they might expect from their comrades. In hundreds of different ways this fellow-feeling is expressed, and, since it is impossible to print every acknowledgment, much as we should like to, we shall have to content ourselves by presenting some of the most representative letters, together with excerpts from others.

Judging by the enthusiastic "Thank You" that is the key-note of every communication, it is safe to conclude that the gift accomplished its purpose, and carried with it a message of Christmas cheer from the Bell Family. The boys wish to speak for themselves, and express through THE TELEPHONE REVIEW the appreciation and thanks that they would like to extend in person to every one of those at home who is helping to keep the wheels of the world revolving while they are preparing themselves for their share in the world war:

To All the Men and Women of the New York Telephone Company, Greetings:

In my unseemly haste to open your Christmas box, I overlooked the injunction not to open same until Christmas Day. Had I seen that first, perhaps my sense of discipline would have kept me from opening it until the 25th, but to be perfectly frank with you, *I doubt it.*

As I eagerly opened package after package, I realized more and more how much thought had been put into your work. The idea was cleverly conceived and was cleverly carried out; and the Committee is to be congratulated on its wise selection.

There was subtle flattery in the size of the money-belt, folks, for in the rush of more important things, our good old Uncle Sam has overlooked the fact that the present rate of pay of his officers was determined years ago, before H. C. L. began his successful drive on the old bank roll. However, "Sacrifice" is the order of the day, and we are not kicking.

Crammed into that box was something you good people overlooked, but which was plainly evident to us boys in the field. It was the best thing of all—the "oodles" of good will that filled the box to bursting.

"Back at home on the old job"—and our thoughts are with you; for while we are "doing our bit" in the field (and getting *all the credit*), you are *just as surely* doing your bit back home,—doing it day after day, without any brass bands or cheering throngs to help along when the blue days come.

And speaking of brass bands, folks: you all have experienced the sensation of the chills running up and down the spinal column when you see the boys in uniform go swinging along in time to the music. Well, that's how I felt while I was digging into your gift box. There are times when the brass bands are silent and when there are no crowds to cheer, but there never will be a time when the thought of your unselfish devotion to the boys in the field will leave me, and it will go far towards smoothing over the rough spots on the long, long trail (that leads to Berlin).

It was just splendid of you, folks, and I thank you simply and sincerely.

Faithfully,
LIEUT. W. S. EMMONS,
Co. H, 113th Inf.

Several of the boys were inspired to poetic effort:

To the Employees of The New York Telephone Company Who So Kindly Remembered Their Boys of Uncle Sam:

No words of Thanks could e'er express
The gratitude I now confess—
But may these humble lines portray
The joy you sent to "Dick" Conway.

The package with the contents came—
I'll thank you for them each by name—
The pocket-knife—yes that I need,
And candy, chewing-gum indeed—
Tobacco too, both fresh and ripe,
Gave added pleasure to my pipe—
And with each cigarette I had,
I felt that War was not so bad—
The money-belt great pleasure gave
And it will help me much to save—
The game of cards too came in right,
It helps time pass most every night—
And with the pencil that you sent
I jot these words of my content.

So Merry Christmas to you all,
And if by chance I do not fall,
I shall return to greet each one
And thank you for the kindness done.

Sincerely,
CORP. R. J. CONWAY.

Gift a Timely One

IT seems that the gifts began to arrive at a very opportune time,—Thanksgiving! Many of the men who had been unable to obtain holiday leave were feeling lonesome and depressed. The little gift arrived on the scene, and did double duty for the two festive days. The following are representative of statements made in many of the letters:

Today happened to be one of those days when things look blue. Some of the boys were looking for smokes, some for a deck of cards; and when I opened the package and brought forth both smokes and cards, they were immediately "mustered into service." Blues were forgotten.

SERGEANT FRED. C. J. SCHWARZE,
Camp Gordon, Ga.

H. N. Rothwell (Extreme Right) and Two of His Messmates Celebrating the Arrival of His Christmas Box. Note the Peculiar Double-Deck Beds

They certainly came at a very opportune time. I had recently been transferred to the above named camp, and was rather lonesome. The great Family of the Bell Telephone Company, however, stepped into the breach, as it has done in thousands of other cases, and by its forethought and unselfishness cheered me greatly.

J. J. CASEY,
Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga.

Thanksgiving morning at reveille found me very thankful that I was an employee of the New York Telephone Company. The reason, as you might guess, was the Xmas Box that had come in the night before at 11:30 P. M., but as it was then after Taps, it was held over until the morning. Its delivery could not have been better timed, and as I started to open up each individual package, at 6 A. M., with the rest of my squad looking on, it certainly did seem like home on a Xmas morning. I was so interested that I did not hear mess call, and when a soldier misses that there is usually something very important to hold him back.

Whoever made up the list of the contents in the box certainly, at some time or other, must have been a soldier, for there was nothing in it that a soldier would not prefer to almost anything else. And, also, to know that we are still remembered by those we left behind, is in itself a big help to pass away the time until we are back with them.

I almost feel as if I were really back at the old game, as I have been transferred from the M. G. Co. of the 10th to the Headquarters of the 54th Brigade, 27th Division, where I am acting as telephone man. I don't know just what my duties will be when we get 'Over There,' but at present I am attending a school. There we are taught the principles of the telephone and telegraph and their part in the war. Lieutenant Smith of the French army is here to show us the results, both good and bad, that the French army has got from using various types of instruments and cables. It is all very interesting and instructive.

PRIVATE W. S. KIMBALL,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

Good Enough for a General

THE gift satisfied our boys in other respects as well as in its timeliness. They all seem to agree that the contents could not have been selected better, for everything filled a need of a soldier. Besides being an index of the spirit of their friends at home, it was a most practical thing. We find many of the men enumerating the gifts in turn. The pocket-knife and money-belt seem to be very popular, while once more we hear "My pipe is my comfort." Perhaps the following selections will give some idea of what the men thought of the gift:

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It is really a gift for a general instead of a private. Just the same, the little private is going to make good use of it!

PRIVATE RICHARD FURLONG,
Camp Upton, L. I.

I know that the little pipe will serve many times to bring back those pleasant memories and surroundings which I am setting aside for the sterner duties of all Americans.

HENRY B. LENZ,
Camp Upton, L. I.

Each of the articles contained in the package was a very practical gift in itself, and must have required a great deal of thought on the part of those who so thoughtfully contributed. I assure you that the money-belt and pocket-knife will be very useful, and I shall treasure them as the thoughtful remembrance of those who are still with the service.

CORPORAL J. A. ROSS.

The pretty Christmas box received, and I wish you would accept my sincere thanks for it. It is one of the biggest pleasures for a soldier to be remembered by friends, especially when these remembrances come in gift-boxes.

CORPORAL JAMES SMITH,
Spartanburg, S. C.

I can truthfully say that each recipient voiced his appreciation of the kindness of the "Telephon-ees" back home, who showed, in no mean way, that they were on the job equally as well in giving kindnesses as in efficiency. I should like very much to congratulate those responsible for the selection of the presents on the wonderful judgment shown.

Article No. 7, which, as you know, is a money-belt, will not be over-worked, as we only use it for a short time after the first of each month, and then stow it away until pay-day comes around again.

SERGEANT MICHAEL KING,
Camp Dodge, Ia.

I can assure you it is a great satisfaction to a soldier to know that the folks back home have not forgotten him; therefore, the employees will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are giving a good deal of comfort to the soldier boys by sending those packages. I should also like to add that it is an ideal gift, the articles being exactly what he needs, and they will be useful whether here or in France.

We expect to go across soon, for the Big Adventure, but wherever I go or wherever I be, I will not forget the kindness of the employees.

PRIVATE JOHN J. O'BRIEN,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

The articles the package contained are necessities to every soldier, and for a long time will serve to freshen memories of my service in a corporation whose first concern is its employees' welfare.

A Merry Christmas to the Bell System.

SERGEANT A. MONARCH,
Spartanburg, S. C.

Be assured that each gift will be enjoyed to the utmost, for camp life makes the soldier boy appreciate everything he gets from home.

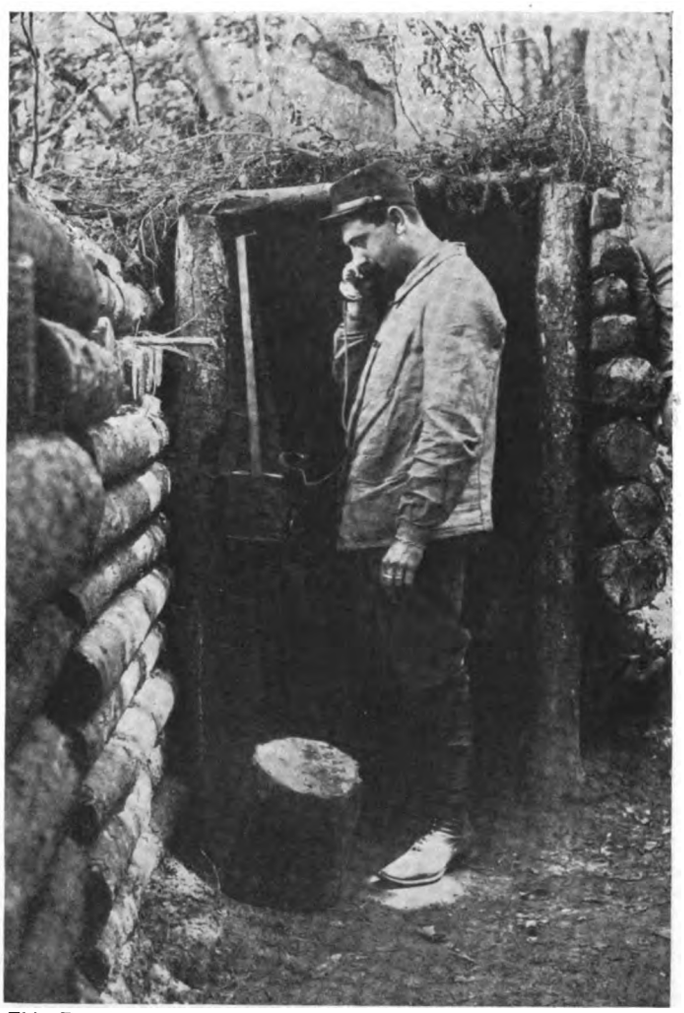
SERGEANT JOSEPH D. HALL,
Camp Upton, L. I.

I wish to say that the one who selected the things in the package knows the things we need the most, for if he or she had asked us what we wanted, we could not have thought of anything better.

PRIVATE HARRY I. HARTLEY,
Camp Upton, L. I.

A Message of Cheer

THE Christmas Box meant more to the boys in camp than a group of useful articles. It meant cheer; it meant encouragement; it meant co-operation, and above all, the assurance that those at home were also doing their share. Was not the whole thing worth this?



This Frenchman Has a "Camouflaged" Telephone Booth, Built on the Principle of "Safety First." Telephoning in No Man's Land Has All the Aspects of an Adventure

This little remembrance, together with your good will, goes a long way toward making me a better soldier.

CORPORAL GEO. I. CUMMINGS,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

The realization of the work that is being done by the other "Soldiers of America," whose duty it is to stay at home, finds expression in dozens of letters:

Although the donators are not in the fighting forces of the United States, they are doing more than their "bit" with their wonderful and useful gifts to us in the service.

PHILIP H. EGNER,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

You, upon whom the nation depends, and whose support is not to be questioned, can rely on the boys at the front to do their bit and hold dear the spirit of the New York Telephone Company.

Should I be among the fortunate ones to return, it will then be my great honor to praise the boys and girls whose loyal support enabled the grand old United States to make the world safe for democracy.

PRIVATE A. W. WESTON,
Marine Barracks, S. C.

It is truly kind and also characteristic of the men and women of the "good old Telephone Company" to remember us in this generous manner.

H. M. POPE,
Camp Alfred Vail,
Little Silver, N. J.

The time is rapidly approaching when the spirit of good cheer and thanksgiving enters every human heart. The New York Telephone Company is as usual a pioneer in extending the joys of the season in a practical way. Words can't express the feeling of appreciation that every soldier has who is affiliated with a company that is so true to the colors, in knowing that his associates have not forgotten him since his country called for volunteers and he answered the call to help preserve democracy.

JOHN J. CANNING,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

Company True to Colors

I want to thank those of us who are staying at home and are at the same time doing as much to bring about the end of barbarism on the other side, and much-looked-for peace and prosperity on this side, as those of the Company who have volunteered to give up their lives for such a noble cause.

I also want to thank the person or persons who so kindly made up the contents of that much appreciated gift for that everlastingly-smoked pipe, and to wish them all a very merry Christmas and a bright and Happy New Year.

JAMES A. O'CONNOR,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

We who are in the service do appreciate the efforts to help of those who, perhaps, have not had the chance to serve the colors. We cannot all be at the front, and the sincere coöperation between those who are serving and those who are doing their bit at home will surely encourage and stimulate the best efforts of both. I have heard many flattering remarks concerning the service flag which hangs in front of the Telephone Building, and I'll say that I feel quite proud to be able to personally account for one of the stars.

ARTHUR W. DEAS, JR.,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

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Words Inadequate

SOME men have the gift of expression which enables them to reveal their appreciation in so many words. Others feel handicapped by an inability to express themselves as they would like to do. It is not difficult to read between the lines and feel the gratitude they are meant to convey.

I find it rather hard to express my feelings on receiving the box. It was great of the folks back on the job to remember us that way.

C. H. Bothner,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

I do not lack appreciation of your thought and generosity, but the expression of it; so will you kindly accept my simple "Thank You" to express my deep gratitude.

Private John Neary,
Camp Gordon, Ga.

I heartily thank each and all of those loyal friends back home on the job who have united in remembering those of us who have been called away to do our bit in this great world-war. Just how much we appreciate that bit of generous kindness you may never know. It means more than words can utter. The pleasure that you have had in sending those practical gifts is small indeed to that which is ours in receiving them. It's a mighty good "push." In this big and mighty army there is not one more proud of his star in that good old Company flag than I. May my record justify its place.

George C. Donnelly,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

I am afraid that I have not the power of expressing my very deep and earnest appreciation of the Telephone Company and its employees. The Christmas package surely did bring good cheer.

Joseph Bowen,
Spartanburg, S. C.

It was indeed very kind of my fellow employees to think of me by sending me a Christmas package. I appreciate their kindness very much, and should like to be with them all at Christmas time. However, I shall be with them in mind and thought.

D. Evans
Camp Gordon, Ga.

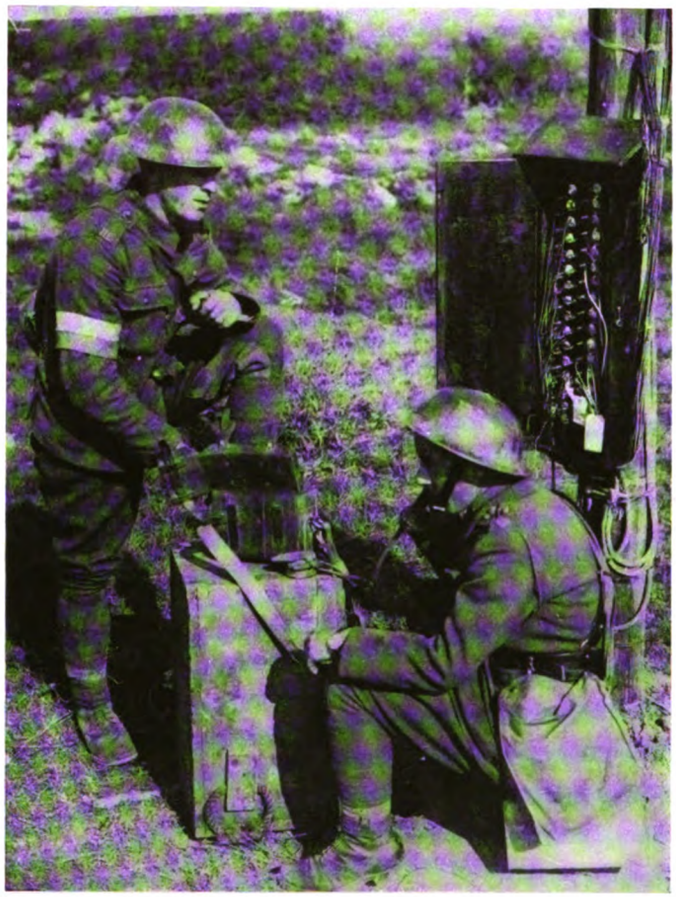
Dear Sir: The Christmas package arrived in excellent condition last week, and you will be glad to learn that it brought me as much pleasure as I am sure the big-hearted senders could wish for. It is but another instance of the care and attention that the Company is continually showing towards its "people." The fine, splendid spirit shown by the sending of the thousands of such Christmas boxes is the outward and visible sign of the spirit of Splendid Service that is the ruling motive of the New York Telephone Company and its thousands of real men and women.

I sincerely regret my inability to express the deep appreciation that I feel, but please believe me when I wish you all a merrier, finer Christmas than you have ever known.

John A. Burchell.

An Enthusiastic "Thank You"

AND still they come! Notes and letters, letters and notes, *ad infinitum!* All tell the same tale of appreciation and good fellowship. Every mail brings requests to The Telephone Review for the use of its columns to express the general feeling. If you are interested in hearing the same thing told in an infinite variety of ways, read on! Each man speaks for himself, and speaks well.



"You Ought to See Me in a Helmet (Called Soup-Bowl) and Gas Mask!" Writes One of Our Telephone Men from France. This British Officer and Soldier, Who are Testing the Wires that Play so Important a Part in the Signal Service on the British Western Front, Wear "Soup-Bowls" as if They Were "Quite the Thing"
British Official Photograph

It certainly gives a man fresh courage to go on when he realizes that his friends at home are still actively interested in his welfare, and that a warm welcome will be his when he returns. That I think, is a very fine way for those left behind to "do their bit!"

Stanley V. Coppinger,
Camp Upton, L. I.

I want to thank all who have united to make the Bell people who are at the front feel as though everyone at home thinks of them. I also wish to say that the Bell Telephone Company is one great organization of our country that is doing its bit as an organization, and is giving financial aid and encouragement to every individual of the Company who is trying to do his share.

Leonard P. Borrell,
U. S. S. Missouri,
Somewhere on the Atlantic.

Most joyously and gratefully did I receive the handy and useful Christmas Box that the friends at home were so kind as to send us.

John J. Mack,
Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

Leaving home and friends and going into strange places sometimes brings moments of lonesomeness, and the joy that comes to a fellow in the receipt of greetings from back home cannot be measured. Christmas greetings to all!

I thank the Company and its employees for their good work and kindness, which is very much appreciated by me and by the rest of the men of the New York Telephone Company who are now serving Uncle Sam abroad, as well as in the United States.

Caesar Mikolajewski,
Little Silver, N. J.

Again in my young life do I find the English language altogether too weak to express my thanks and appreciation to you, and incidentally to the generous-hearted employees of the New York Telephone Company. Were I to thank you in a much used phrase around the station, it would be "You tell 'em, Buddie; I stutter!"

Lorenz C. Becker,
U. S. Naval Training
Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

The Box leaves nothing to be desired, and is one of the most cheering things that has happened to me in a long time. I thank you and all the men and women back home on the job for your kindness and thoughtfulness, and assure you that the spirit of the gift and good wishes is understood and very deeply felt by me. I shall consider it my duty and privilege to keep in touch with you from time to time, and hope soon to be with you again.

P. S. Written with the stylo pencil.

Sidney Alexander,
Camp Upton, L. I.

To say that your efforts are greatly appreciated is putting it mildly. I only hope that we shall all come back and be able to thank a great many of you personally.

Private Frank Sutter,
Camp Upton, L. I.

The box arrived to-day. I can't express the thanks or my feelings to the employees of the good old New York Telephone Company. I have been with them nineteen years, and no one could work for better people. I think it is just grand of the boys and girls to remember us this way. Christmas is generally a lonely day in the army, when one is so far from his loved ones. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart, and wish you all a very merry Xmas and a happy New Year. Geo. F. Lohouse,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

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Service First

My dear Mr. Newman:

"Good things come in small packages" and "It never rains but it pours," are pretty true statements.

First, on Thanksgiving Day I received the box from the "folks back home on the old job," and on the third of December came a business-like looking envelope with a note from our Uncle Sam, telling me that he had decided to honor me with a Second Lieutenancy in the Field Artillery. This will indeed be a happy Xmas for me.

I am now at the Range, where extensive work is going on, simulating conditions in Europe. The work is quite instructive and interesting, although the idea of fighting in, and living in, the trenches does not appeal to me so much as a man's way of settling an argument. The method of 1861 is more to my way of thinking, as to how war should be waged, but I suppose war, like everything else, changes.

Please express my deep appreciation and many, many thanks to the 'folks' for remembering me and allow me to wish you and all the Company a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, and tell 'em all not to forget Uncle Sam, the grandest of all Grand Old Men, and to stick to pen or pliers, spurs or cable, until he calls for them; and when he calls, to drop that work and don the field uniform, with a light but proud heart, and "go to it" like men retaining as their motto "Service First."

Sincerely,
JOHN C. ORGILL,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

Dear Sir:

Received Christmas package sent me some days ago and wish to extend my sincere thanks to yourself and through you to the employees of the New York Telephone Company, who were so kind as to remember the boys of the company who answered the call to the colors. It is indeed gratifying to know that we have not been forgotten. Those left behind are surely doing all in their power to make army life bright and cheerful for the boys in olive-drab.

Everything contained in the package was, I am sure, selected with care, as the gifts were all so useful to the soldier.

There is plenty of work attached to the life at this camp, with drills and formations, hikes, rifle range work, company school, lectures and guard duties, but there are very few complaints. The officers almost without exception are very fine men. They are mostly all reserve men, and appreciate the drafted man's position.

There is one thing that is doing us all the world of good, and that is the outdoor exercise we get. You can see the difference in the appearance of the men who are here but a few weeks. They all have the glow of health, and most of them gain weight.

The food and bedding are fine, and the sanitary conditions excellent. In a few more months when we go "Over There" we will be in such condition that we can meet the enemy at any stage of battle and help "make the world safe for democracy."

With kindest regards and best wishes and three cheers for the New York Telephone Company, I am

Sincerely yours,
THOMAS A. O'DONNELL,
Camp Dix, N. J.

N. Y. Telephone Co.

Dear friends:

Received your most welcome Christmas package and assure you it was much appreciated. It sure did carry the spirit which it was intended for. My Jackie friends also send in a vote of thanks to all, as we enjoyed it immensely. We held a little serenade in honor of the occasion and a good time was had by all. I am sending a snap-shot taken during the festivities and, as you will see, actions speak louder than words. Again thanking all and wishing them a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year, I remain

Sincerely,
HERBERT N. ROTHWELL,
U. S. N. Radio Service.

Just Like the N. Y. Telephone Co.

It is a very splendid thing, and characteristic of the New York Telephone Company's people, to prompt such an enterprise; and I am quite sure that all the men who have spent their time in civil life in promoting public service as we of the New York Telephone Company understand it, and who are now willing to give the rest of that life in their country's service, will be greatly cheered at this substantial reminder that their co-workers, men and women, have not forgotten them. The motto of our profession is Universal Service, and it is only fitting that men so trained in their civil pursuits would be among the first to respond to the call "To make the world safe for democracy."

LIEUTENANT COL. WM. A. TAYLOR,
108th Infantry, U. S. A.

A mother of one of the boys writes as follows:

Thank you so much for your Christmas and New Year greetings, and also for THE TELEPHONE REVIEW which I receive. A letter has just come to me from my dear son saying that a package had come to him from the Telephone Company, with Christmas Greetings on the outside from All the Employees of the Company back at home on the old job. Contents were fine and so appreciated, so attractively done up in tissue paper and ribbon, just like a regular Christmas box he would get from home. It was a great surprise to him, and so nice of *you all* to have remembered him. I am sure he will write you when he gets the chance; he has been doing trench duty Thanksgiving week, but I, in his behalf, thank you all most sincerely for your kind Christmas greetings to my dear soldier boy.

P. S.—My son has been promoted from Private to Corporal.

One of the Missing "17" a Former Telephone Employee

ALTHOUGH his star is not numbered in the 1009 that shine in our service flag, which floats on the breeze at 15 Dey Street, it might interest readers and former co-workers to know that Private Harry J. Mason, one of the missing engineers who fought so bravely at Cambrai, is a former Telephone Company employee.

He was employed by the Telephone Company about five years ago in the Directory Department, at 30 Church Street. He started his working career at this office, having graduated from Public School No. 32, of Jersey City. He later secured a position with the Edison Company as a metal worker.

He joined the 1st Engineers of New York as a private on May 23, two days previous to his twentieth birthday. He sailed for France on the Carpathia July 14, landed in England, later reaching France, and finally the firing line.

Although only six months in the service and not a trained fighting man, he has distinguished himself as a real hero. The last letter received from the soldier was dated November 23, and in it he stated he was in fine spirits and enjoying the usual soldiers' routine.

In spite of the family's anxiety as to our boy's fate, we feel he has given his all for the Stars and Stripes, and has done his bit toward keeping his country safe for democracy. I know our company will be proud to know that our boy was their boy at one time.

HILDA E. MASON,
Rector Senior Operator,
Sister of Private Harry J. Mason.

He Is Now Brigadier General Robb

BY command of Governor Whitman, the Adjutant General of the State of New York issued an order on December 22, creating a Second Brigade, composed of all State troops on Long Island and Staten Island, and assigning Colonel James Robb to the command of it, with the rank of Brigadier General.

General Robb, we salute you!

The Second Brigade as constituted is made up of the Thirteenth Coast Artillery, Sixth Battalion and Fourteenth, Twenty-third and Forty-seventh Regiments of Infantry, Second Field Artillery, Squadron C, and Third Field Hospital Corps.

It was only last month that we informed our readers of the rapid promotion of Colonel Robb as the result of his able and energetic organization of a battalion which, through his efforts, became a regiment. This new honor and responsibility which he has now had conferred upon him involves duties of the most important and exacting character, affecting the peace and security of a large portion of the State of New York in time of war.

A high compliment is paid in this appointment to both Brigadier General Robb and the Telephone Company.

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New Year's Greetings From France

Our Boys of the Second Telegraph Battalion Give Us a Picture of Their New Life and Tell Tales On One Another

LIFE at the front has often been commented upon as making children again of the soldiers. This has been noted by almost all visitors and observers, and may be seen at its best in the trench newspapers edited and sometimes printed right up in the advanced lines.

A letter has just been received by us which is full of this spirit. The very twist of the usual headline into "France Somewhere" shows a lightness of humor that is suggestive of the playfulness in which the men indulge. To read the letter through is to be transported into the very midst of fifty-five fellows (all named), and the rest of our Second Battalion who are in France, including "Spot," the mascot, and share in their fun, apart from their work which is exciting the admiration both of the French and the English.

The letter shows that they are happy, as it says they are, even if their hands are cold and they need ten-cent gloves.

Their New Year's Greetings are heartily re-echoed by us and by all the Eastern Group to whom they are sent.

France Somewhere,
Sometime Before Xmas.

Dear Mr. Newman:

This letter is written in a spirit of fun, without malice, and I hope that if it is printed our boys here in France will take no offense at what is said. A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men. It is a short story of the inside doings of Company D, Second Telegraph Battalion, U. S. S. C. R., from the Long Island Division of the New York Telephone Company.

The first item on the program is Captain Mastin. Every man Jack of us swears by him, and you should see his mustache and the little goatee below the lower lip. It is a dream, but at that he is a gentleman throughout. . . . Next we have with us Lieutenant Bassler, an officer we all respect. A little story about him. The gallant Lieutenant was coming down the road of our village where we are at present located (the name of said village is in the hands of the censor), when a young lady looked out of the window, one flight up, and smiled. Our gallant Lieutenant said in excellent French, *"Bon jour, Mademoiselle."* Mademoiselle replied, "Hello, Kiddo, kiss me quick." We have no authentic records that he did, as she played safe, one flight up. Safety first! With his face flushed to a scarlet, Lieutenant Bassler passed on.

Next we come to our M. S. E. (which means Much Sleep and Eats), "Crackers Graham." Nothing to report, only you should take his diary with a little grain of salt. It caused no end of fun here when the boys read it. Well, he got away with it. (Turn off the Spotlight.) . . . Now we have Escholz, nicknamed "Finland." His back looks like the stern of a canal barge. You should see him when he gets a destroyer in tow—a young one about 18 years old. If she is able to talk "Boche," "Finland" is there with bells on. . . . Next we have "Top Kicker" Jim West. He is as busy as a one-armed man with the hives. Jim is all right. He is indefatigable when it comes to looking after his men. We could not wish for better.

Now we come to Sergeants, First Class. First is Bill Homnick, "Roaring Bill," "Two-Gun Bill." He is a bear, out on the job. Running board coming along with four wires attached; something goes wrong with the reels; Bill jumps four feet, runs out into the road, bites three chunks out of the motorcycle tires, and hops on, blows the horn (a la Long Island express!), and away to go down the road. Gee, but he can roar; soon, however, back he comes with that golden (teeth) smile and all is O. K. once more. Bill is a good skate. . . . Next we have Big Chief Bringle "Bull." He never misses seconds on the eats. He doesn't roar much, but what he says stings. Sometimes he forgets "The Voice With the Smile Wins!" . . . Next we have Arthur Lewis. He has very high ambitions. If he doesn't take General Pershing's place before the war is over, he will be sadly disappointed. Never say die, Arthur. Stick to the army and you will be president (of the Club) some day. . . . Next we have "Barney Oldfield" McLean. The speedometer on the motorcycle has not enough numbers on it for him. In his last race with "Lightning" Keating (our "Flying Mercury") they came to a railroad crossing. Mac. went over the top of the gates without touching and proceeded on his way. One of "Lightning's" cylinders flew off and as Mac. explained afterwards: "When that happened I knew I had him." Mac's slogan is, "We don't get much money, but, oh, gee! we are happy!"

Now we come to the Sergeants. Sergeant Alphonse Phelps. A little story about Alf. He understands French a little. A lady came out of her door one day where Alf. was trimming trees, and *"parlez vous-ed"* a little. *"We-we,"* said Alf. He said, *"Oui, oui"* so much, without the slightest idea of what *Madame* was saying, that he found himself in the back yard with a saw-horse and a fine healthy saw in his hand. That was what she was saying. Alf. had said *"Oui, oui"* too many times, and he had to make good. He sawed until he sweated,—and Alf. is no skeleton. He is mighty careful whom he says *"Oui, oui"* to now. When the trees see Alf. and his gang of trimmers coming, they begin to back and bow and ask him to leave (leaf!) them alone. But Alf. is deaf to all entreaties.

Sergeant Purple. He makes us all turn *blue* with envy when he talks French with the natives. . . . Then we have Walter Murtaugh. "We can't get him up! We can't get him up! We can't get him up in the morning." You should see his molars. He cleans them ten times a day. . . . Next we have Sergeant "Dingbat" Newbatt, our congenial mess sergeant. He surpassed himself on last Thanksgiving Day. Good boy, Al., keep up the good feeds! . . . Next we have Willie Travers. He is the proud possessor of a daughter born about a month ago. Her name is Frances Dorothy. Billie hasn't stopped smiling since he heard the news. Good boy, Billie; our hats off to you and Mrs. Travers. Keep up the good work. . . . There is also Sergeant Eddie Frank. Lucky boy. Wish we had your chances. He has some pompadour, also some chilblains (this has nothing to do with cold feet). . . . Next we have ex-Chief Cook Kearney, who is now provost sergeant. He has the distinction of being the only man in the outfit who has been shot so far. Joe was tying up his shoe lace when a "Froggy" sportsman with a double-barreled gun mistook him (Kearney) for a bear and let Joe have both barrels. Up to now Joe hates to see a chair. We have seen the same thing in Keystone Films. . . . We next have Big Bill Kelly. He is a gang by himself. He puts 8-meter poles in the holes by himself, kicks in the dirt, and stamps it down with his feet; when the gang arrives there is nothing to do. Wish we were as big as Bill.

You should see Corporal Overington, our clerk, pounding the ivories of his typewriter. Jim West often makes a mistake and places a vase of flowers on Charlie's desk, and a package of Spearmint. It's absent-mindedness, that's all. . . . Next we have Al. Lynch. Al. is down-hearted because he was put on detached service and had to leave us, but never mind, Al., "Gabby" has no other fellow yet, and Murtaugh is keeping your reserved seat for you. "Cheer up." . . . Do you remember Corporal Al. Hearn? He is just as tall and skinny as ever. He is a good teammate of Corporal Shakeshaft. They both stand on the ground and tie in on the insulators; they have no need to climb the poles. . . . Another good team is Private Harry Knoblauch and Charlie Mortensen, human stepladders, too tall for the trenches. . . . Another good team is Alf. Phelps and Arthur Wolfe. If they were rolled out by a steam roller they would be good and tall. . . . I almost forgot about "Dusty" Rhodes, nicknamed "Shep." The girls are just wild about him. (Don't blush so, Shep.) . . . Next we have the Scandinavian Triplets, Corporal Hanson, our carpenter; Corporal Larsen, also a carpenter, and Private Andersen, a "Flying Mercury." The three white "nobs," "Day bane guid fallers." . . . Corporal Loomis is the great follower of Billy Sunday, only one town behind all the time. . . . I almost forgot Pete Johnson, our civil engineer. You should see Pete's drafting room with its antique and rustic furniture. It is the envy of the camp. How are the roasted chestnuts, Pete? . . . Now we come to Private Murphy. I will explain his hard luck in a little song after the style of *Poor Pauline:* "Poor Murphee; I pity poor Murphee. He took a quiet little sneak On a motorcycle seat, He went riding down the street. . . . This suspense is

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awful! . . . Zip, bang, zing! He lands up in a tree. He thought he was hit by a submarine. They bring him up for trial. Zip goes the pay-roll; good night. Poor Murphee." When Murph hears this song his hair stands up straight. . . . Next we have "Heapa Hoppa" Gibbs, the near-cop. He may be a near-cop, but he is certainly there with the cooking. Mrs. Gibbs, you picked a winner. . . . Our next is "Jazz" Crawley, the boy with the endless smile; it never stops, not even when he is asleep. . . . There is his partner, too, English Jack Bartley. Some cook. Good boy, Jack. Thanksgiving Day will linger long in my memory. You surpassed yourself. . . . Next we have Jack Syvensen, "Silent Jack." He never says a word; he just saws wood, but gets there just the same.

We have lost Tommy O'Connor. Tommy was very sick and went to the hospital. We could not learn what was the trouble, but our boys all hope that Tommy will be back again with us soon. . . . Private Cunningham is with us yet. He was in hard luck, too. He wanted to sleep one morning, and so he missed reveille. And so he got two days' kitchen police. He is first on line now. . . . We have also Private Tommy Dowling. Some singer. He hits the high C's (Caruso take notice). Tommy studied music and now when he comes to the "Seventh Bar" he has to stop, he can't go any farther. It's farther than I can go. If I reach the "Second Bar" I'm finished. . . . We also have Private Willie Grace, also some singer. You should hear Willie sing *Asleep on the Deep*, and he is able to reach B flat, too. . . . Private Ernie Moir is here with "Spot," our mascot. "Spot" is doing a world of good around France, and Ernie is doing a world of good to our stomachs, for he is some cook. Everybody enjoys his meals (even "Spot" does). . . . We have another good team, Private Topping and his pipe. You never see them apart; also Duke Sendall and his glasses. Duke has a vampire. She is about forty years old and has a hatchet face and a hammer head. She comes out and "vamps" a little for us when we go by in the auto. . . . We must not forget Private M. T. (Mickey Toomey). Mickey is still in the ring. Since his last escapade he is a sadder and wiser boy. Keep your upper lip stiff, Mickey. . . . We have also a "Flying Mercury" in Private Wellner. Eighty miles an hour without touching the handle bars. I hope they don't pick pieces of him out of a tree. He believes in Safety First! Skid chains on all the time. Watch your step. "Nook." . . . Next we have the Brothers Haggerty. Eddie watches Jerry and Jerry watches Eddie, and so they are both good boys. . . . Privates Conklin and Frey are very good chums, resembling strange bulldogs who have not been introduced. We shall have to get boxing gloves if they don't shake hands soon. . . . Private Cullington is sick; he becomes unconscious eight hours every night, and tells the boys the next day he has had no sleep. Doc. Furman, take notice.

Private Green, the boy wonder with the blue eyes. He is the only curly-haired boy in the company, and the *Mlles.* just rave over him. . . . We also have Private Renard. You should see this boy handle a digging bar and a shovel. He's a wonder. . . . We have also Private Whyte, the most photographed man in the outfit (movies and others). He used to pose at least two or three times a week in Monmouth Park with his shoulder broken. We are happy to say that Jack has recovered and is in fine trim, likewise Lucky Sergeant Frank Irwin, the only man that I know who ever balanced a Mack truck on his head and recovered. Frank, you are a lucky devil. He has that eternal smile that refuses to come off, and, darn it, everybody smiles here! We are the happiest little bunch of Kaiser Kanners that ever landed in France.

Our boys would welcome a few pairs of ten-cent cotton gloves, for the weather is cold. We hardly ever see the sun.

Mr. Editor, I hope that no one will take offense at this letter, and we all wish you and the Eastern Group a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

BOYS OF COMPANY "D," 2ND
TELEGRAPH BATTALION,
U. S. S. C. R., France.

The Telephone to the Rescue

"Stop that man!"

The cry of alarm rang high above the noise of the hustle and bustle of Camp Merritt last autumn.

A moment before a tall lanky negro ran swiftly across the lawn of the administration grounds and was now well on his way up the road, toward the center of the camp, a maelstrom of men, wagons, and automobiles, where, if not overtaken, he would quickly be lost to view.

Soldiers and civilians started in pursuit, hands clutched at the fleeing man. It looked as if he would outdistance his pursuers, when a young man stepped into the central office and said, "Operator, a nigger is running up the road, telephone the guard on the corner to stop him."

The operator telephoned the guard-house and delivered the message. The man who received it leaned out of the window and shouted to a soldier. The negro ran into the soldier's outstretched arms. Immediately two more of Uncle Sam's brave boys grasped the fellow and together they started back to the scene of the crime.

The look of triumph on the soldiers' faces was good to see. "Ah, ha, we caught the fellow. We will not let him go," and amid the gathering throng they dragged him on, conscious of the admiring glances bestowed upon them, hardly able to restrain their feelings of satisfaction.

The negro squalled, scratched, and struggled. He was fairly white. He did not want to go back. The soldiers pushed him on.

The captain of the guard thundered, "What has this man done, and who is his accuser?"

The air was tense, the feeling of impending doom hung heavy.

"Again I say, what has this man done?"

A little man approached, a former caretaker of the vast estate. He shrugged his shoulders and rising to his full height, he looked the negro in the face, and pointing with his arm, he shouted, "He stole two apples from off 'er that 'ere tree."

G. H. HOWELL,
Hackensack.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE AMERICAN CAMP "BASSEENS," SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE, SHOWING THE ARRIVAL OF SUPPLIES

The Soldier Standing in the Foreground, Facing the Camera, is Francis C. Allen, Son of G. C. Allen, General Superintendent of Plant. He Enlisted in the 2nd Telegraph Battalion of the Signal Reserve Corps on July 8, the Day After He Was Eighteen Years of Age. He Was Sent to Camp "Alfred Vail" at Monmouth County on July 12, and Sailed for France With His Battalion on the *Antilles* on August 7. He Arrived Safely at a French Port on August 20, Although the Ship Was Twice Attacked by Submarines, Once Within Sight of the French Coast. It Will Be Remembered That the *Antilles* Was Subsequently Sunk on One of Her Return Voyages

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Life at the Front

As Revealed in Letters From Our Telephone Boys, Which Also Show Their Confidence and Mettle

"CAMP life is hard, but I am sure that it makes a *man* out of a fellow, and I reckon that there is no better school for life than this army discipline. It is remarkable how 'soldiering' for a great Idea makes men coöperate and stand by their country with a full understanding of what they are doing."

The thought expressed in these words runs like a thread through the mass of communications that we have received from the boys who have gone to camp. It makes us pause and marvel at what the war has done for them, and, incidentally, for us.

Our boys have been asked to make a real sacrifice, and, although some of them have never had to give up anything big before, they have not hesitated. In a day they changed from boys to men—men willing and eager to shoulder the responsibility of righting the wrongs of the world. Nor was this eagerness to get into the thick of the fight a mere passing emotion. It would not be exaggerating to say that practically every man deliberately counted the cost, and then made his choice, for we of America are not what one might call an emotional people. In fact, we have a reputation for hard-headedness and utilitarianism. Not only have our boys risen to the occasion without any doubt or hesitation as to where their duty lay, but they have revealed in their letters, since taking up the duties of camp life, a spirit of hope and cheerfulness and absolute confidence in the ultimate outcome of the war with Germany, which is the admiration of everyone, not excepting our companions in arms, —France and England.

This confidence is not based on thin air. Deep in their hearts these boys know that without the help of those at home, who in their way are making sacrifices that are just as great as theirs, they could accomplish nothing. What can a man do without food? How can he fight without weapons, without support, without encouragement? We must merit the confidence which they have placed in us, by keeping the cogs of the "war machine" oiled. To do this, things at home must be kept in as normal a state as possible. Americans have been accused of being thoughtlessly extravagant and wasteful, and the accusation is a just one. But there are very few real Americans who are not willing,—nay, *glad* to have an opportunity of showing the men at the front that they are behind them, heart and soul. There are many ways of doing one's bit, and each to his own way!

One Part of the Bell Family—F. J. Chesterman, Division Plant Superintendent at Syracuse, Photographed in the Midst of Some of His Boys on His Recent Visit to Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio

"Over Here"

THE words of a man in Camp Dix express the general sentiment. He says, "My new vocation is doing me so much good that I shall be able to do ten men's work when I get back to the office." Another tells us that "here one has to attend to business and take lots of orders." Still another, who is training at Camp Lee, expresses his desire to be right in the midst of things in this bit of news:

I have been assigned to the Outpost Company which goes ahead of the Army, and I am going to have a chance to show my nerve on the firing line. The men in the other companies are jealous of us, for it is the most dangerous job in the Signal Corps. We are always in advance of the army, or in the trenches near the front. All the husky, nervy, and best bunch of fellows are there with me. . . .

He also gives us a side-light on another aspect of camp life in the following:

It's nine o'clock, and "Lights Out" is being played on the bugle. At eleven the bugles play "Taps" and it sounds fine on the still night air. There is something about the music of a bugle that makes you thrill all over and feel as though you could lick the world. At 5:15 they play to the colors and retreat. It makes a chill run up and down your back as you stand and salute. Then comes mess call, at 5:20, when everyone grabs his mess kit and falls in line for the eats. Then bed, and another day, with roll call at 6 A. M., and a two-mile run before breakfast. It sure makes you hungry.

All in the Day's Work

LIFE in camp, however, is not entirely a matter of thrills. In their enthusiasm, our boys never lose sight of the fact that the best things of life are, as a rule, only to be accomplished by hard work. Every day sees thousands drilling seven and eight hours a day. If that sounds easy, try it, and see what happens! They enjoy it, nevertheless, for one man says:

If we keep it up, we shall be able to beat Germany single-handed.

Another writes:

We have just returned from a seventy-mile hike, footsore, tired, and weary, but in good spirits. In one of the towns through which we passed we encountered the famous Southern hospitality. In order to accommodate us, fifty people in one boarding house gave up their evening meal to as many soldiers.

Judging from their letters, the men prefer drilling to the other duties that are theirs. They are getting a rather intensive course in domestic science that may stand them in good stead when they return. "When they return" may not refer to all, for one soldier boy who is now in France declares:

No more steam-heated flats for me!

He has become so enamored with camp life that he threatens to adopt it from now on. This domestic science does not seem any too popular, for we are told by a man in Camp Dodge, Iowa:

Our duties are varied. Every man has his turn at work around the barracks, such as cleaning the office, halls, quarters, or grounds, or working in the kitchen. I have had my turn at each, and have found that working in the kitchen is hardest of all.

Another gives us a word-picture of

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W. A. Spruance, Salesman, Buffalo Commercial, Now Coxswain U. S. S. *Chicago*, Formerly Member of 3rd Division, 3rd Battalion Naval Militia, State of New York. Entered Active Service April 6, 1917—the Day War Was Declared

activities at Camp Lee, when he writes:

As yet, the new men have no uniforms and it looks funny to see them sweeping, cutting wood, helping the cooks, and picking up old cigar stumps and papers, with good clothes and derby hats on.

These tasks, nevertheless, have to be done, and as there is no one else to do them, the men turn their attention to them, and take a certain pride in keeping their quarters "spick-and-span."

There are fields to be cleared of stumps, roads to be made, trenches to be dug, ground to be levelled, meals to be cooked, and any number of duties of a more or less wholesome but unpleasant nature, which are taken as "all in the day's work," and dispatched cheerfully. After the trenches are finished, they must be used, and one man tells us that he has just done "a trick in the trenches and found it nothing like home." They think it well to get used to them now, as the time may soon come for them to make use of their experience.

A Little Nonsense Now and Then

BUT as "all work and no play would make Jack a dull boy," some of Jack's friends at home who feel it their duty to stick by their job, and yet are anxious to make things as comfortable as possible for their "soldier boys," have established clubs such as the Y. M. C. A., where the men may amuse themselves in off hours. These club quarters are equipped with stationery, victrolas, music, stages, magazines, and everything likely to make the men happy and contented. At least once a week entertainments are staged, or boxing matches arranged for. One of the instructors says:

This job of boxing will keep me busy, for I'll have to match the men against each other, and then see that they do not smash each other up.

Later we received a note from one of the men who had evidently been "matched up," which read:

On the second page of our paper, *Trench and Camp*, you will read about the show which we put on the stage of the Y. M. C. A., and of the boxing match in which I got a beating.

When we have a holiday [another writes from Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.], we go over to the Petersburg battlefield to look for relics of the battle fought there in 1864. Naturally we're much interested in seeing the trenches used by the Confederate troops, and the other signs of the fight. There are many lines of trenches and a tunnel that runs about a mile underground. The clay in this tunnel is so hard that you can still see the pick marks made so long ago. V—— took some pictures of us with our heads just showing above the tunnel, and if they come out well you shall have some.

Would you like to hear about the Thanksgiving Dinner that Uncle Sam gave to his boys "Over Here"? Uncle Sam has many ways of keeping his fighting men happy and busy, not the least of which is his fine food. What do you think of this for a dinner at Camp Dodge?

Menu

Oyster Cocktail
Cream of Tomato Soup
Roast Young Turkey, Chestnut Dressing
Cranberry Sauce
Flaked Potatoes Candied Sweet Potatoes
Creamed Peas and Carrots Stewed Squash
Heart of Celery
Head Lettuce Pickles Mayonnaise
Hot Mince Pie Hot Pumpkin Pie
Plum Pudding with Lemon Sauce
French Ice Cream Cocoanut Cake
Crackers and Cheese Demi Tasse
Mixed Nuts Cluster Raisins
Assorted Chocolates
Cigars and Cigarettes

Thanksgiving, 1917, Camp Dodge, Iowa.

"Over There"

WHILE the boys "Over Here" are doing their utmost to prepare themselves for the conflict, what have those who are already in France to say? Some of them are saving all the news for the time of their return home, because of the rigid censorship, but enough gets through to give us an inkling of their life in a strange land. Most of them seem to think that the "Sunny France" so often spoken of in song and story is a little piece of fiction. They are thinking of awarding a prize to France for her mud, which, it seems, is not a real mud, but a sort of plaster-of-paris mud that puts all other kinds to shame. And it is *wet!* We get a great many little tid-bits of news about France as an American boy sees it:

Lonesome? No, not with all this strange country, which is beautiful, especially along the shores, where one can see the little fishing boats, their sails all imaginable colors.

Can you picture us at night, gathered around the open fire in the house where we are billeted, roasting apples and eating French walnuts?

The place in which we are working is as peaceful as Flatbush, and even though I am in "Sunny France," and over 4,000 miles from home, I have such very nice times right in camp, that I should like to stay for a year at least, and make a complete tour of the country.

The weather here is always wet, and not half as good as in the old U. S. A. The United States, in fact, is ten times better than any other country I've seen.

France Versus America

The landscapes are truly beautiful. We had our first snow a few days ago, and the next day being reasonably clear, we could see the mountain tops covered with a white mantle, and the contrast with the green valleys made a beautiful picture. A predominant feature of the landscapes is the tall slim poplars which no doubt you noticed in pictures. They are not so plentiful as to be commonplace but are sparsely distributed so as to give character to the landscape. Then, too, the roads are lined with the most beautiful trees one can imagine. One may travel for miles and not encounter a treeless stretch; in fact, it is only the unimproved roads that are not so lined.

The houses are grouped in closely-built towns, and the woods and forests are based on the same principle. They are as wild as any at home, but their limits are well defined, showing the result of Government regulations. The ground that is not covered by forests or towns is under cultivation.

For all farm work the horses are hitched one behind the other, and it is no uncommon sight to see four or five horses in front of a plow. The horses are hitched in front of the wagons in the same way. This, I am afraid, gives rise to much profanity on the part of Americans, for the farmers are not accustomed to fast automobiles and usually walk alongside of the horses on the near side. The best part of the road for pedestrians is along the edges, so unconsciously the whole cavalcade shifts to the left of the road. We approach and blow our horns, the farmer rushes to the leader, gets him started for the right side, turns his attention to some one of the other horses who he thinks is about to jump, and by the time the long-bodied wagon has gotten clear, we have stopped the car and have to shift gears. After we have been in the small towns for a few weeks, we get the chickens and ducks broken in also, but not without some casualties, for ducks especially are very independent, and refuse to notice the automobile at first, much to their discomfort.

There are various other things that the boys find unusual in French life. One who signs himself "A stray sheep in muddy France" asks:

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The First Step in the Reclamation of No Man's Land—Setting up a Telegraph System to Connect it up with the More Fortunate Part of France. With the Wiring Outfit go the Signallers to Establish Communications. Note the Corkwalks

Speaking of modern France, how would you care to wash clothes in a running stream, using a bat with which to pound the dirt out of them?

Coals [he adds] are just like the black diamonds so often joked about back home.

Wooden shoes, donkey carts, and black bread are common sights. The people, too, are different, as the following will testify:

You ought to see some of the things the old ladies do over here. Why, you see some as old as seventy out gathering wood, packing it on their backs like men, instead of being propped up on pillows bewailing the approach of old age.

The French probably see much to wonder at in our men, also, judging from this extract:

The people here call us the crazy Americans, because we have money and ride when we should walk, and walk when we should ride. The French soldier gets only five cents a day, and has to buy all his own clothes, while a German prisoner gets four cents.

French Tobacco Unpopular

THE one thing about which the French and the Americans seem to disagree most strongly is—tobacco. The men smoke a great deal, and seem to miss Bull Durham. One says:

Uncle Sam is taking good care of every one of his boys,—plenty of money, clothes, food, work, sleep, etc. The telephone officials in New York are donating tobacco and cigarettes for us every month, and that is appreciated very much. The tobacco in France is of an inferior grade; at least, that is my opinion. . . .

Another goes even further:

This French tobacco is like old tarred rope, and even the smoke is intoxicating.

A third announces:

We have reached the point where we have to mix Bull Durham with French Seaweed. They call it tobacco, but one can not stay in the room with it.

In a Strange Country

HERE is a glimpse into the life of another boy in France:

I received four packages today, which were indeed very welcome. A number of the fellows received packages also, and tonight it looks like home on a Christmas morning. In honor of the gala event I am going to dissipate and stay up until 8:30 P. M. You see, we are very proper here, and keep good hours. There are a few night-owls who stay up until 9:00 P. M. We are very busy with our work, and hardly have time to get lonesome. In fact, we are very glad to turn in shortly after supper.

The country is very old-fashioned . . . Wooden shoes, which I thought only to see in picture books are here a-plenty. The women do the family wash in the brooks. The buildings are all built of stone, even the shingles being cut out of solid rock. We have a great time making ourselves understood, but by the use of our hands and a few French words we get along fairly well.

We are encamped in a stone building which was formerly a barn. We call it "The Castle." It has three rooms, Ball Room, Reception Hall, and Balcony. The fellows who sleep in the Balcony can on clear nights get a fine view of the Little Dipper through the holes in the roof. I sleep in the Reception Hall, formerly the horse stall, and use the manger for a pillow. The fellows in our billet are a fine bunch, and we have lots of fun. Some nights it is as good as a circus.

The railroads and the telephone systems in France seem to cause some amusement. "Such railroads! Two men can actually push a car all around, and think nothing of it."

France has fallen below what was expected of her in the opinion of some. Witness the following:

I am disappointed in France, for the better part of it seems to have gone to seed. Commercially it is very much in the rear. If the American spirit of progressiveness is not injected into the arteries of French business as a result of our enforced visit, France will have a difficult job recuperating from this war. But I am of the opinion that the younger generation will profit by the experience gained by contact with our people and that the war, as a result, will mean much toward the advancement of the commercial interests of the country.

America First

THERE are many indications that, although the boys are interested in France and French life, there is little probability of their forgetting the country to which they owe their allegiance. "The sentiment seems to be distinctly in favor of the United States in comparison with France as a place of habitation—not that they love France less, but the United States more."

Here are Some of the Men Behind the "Man Behind the Gun." Within 500 Yards from the Germans, They Lie Cramped Into a Little Cement Dug-out, Receiving and Transmitting the Orders of the Observation Officers, and Altering the Range for the Batteries

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Our Company

"Over Here and Over There"

By Hon. James H. Manning

Address Before the Hudson Section of the Telephone Society of New York, Albany, December 14, 1917

THE most extensively used and seldom abused modern invention is the telephone and millions of people are ever ready to pronounce it a blessing to mankind. There may continue to be in these awful war times meatless, wheatless, wasteless and even eatless days, but never will there be the speechless day as long as human life exists upon this mundane sphere. Man is created to be an animate, not an inanimate creature, and to that end is endowed with certain faculties, one of those being speech that expresses thought in words.

Little did the inventor, Dr. Alexander Melville Bell of Edinburgh, Scotland, think in 1849, when he first published the system of symbols by which scientists could define and compare the sounds of all languages, that his son, Alexander Graham Bell, would far surpass his own efforts and place before the world, as he did on the evening of February 12, 1877, in Salem, Massachusetts, an instrument known as a telephone, destined to be as great a commercial as scientific success. Less than a year and a half later there was established the District Telephone Company of Albany, with 221 subscribers, and that was the nucleus Hudson River Section Company which, little by little and bit by bit, has grown to be a great divisional organization. To-night we give only scant attention to the past, but are intensely interested in the future.

Bell System Answers Call for Service

WHEN this country started to dethrone the Kaiser, it found ready for immediate use at least one service organization that was prepared. It is hardly necessary to tell you gentlemen of the Hudson Division in detail how the New York Telephone Company in 1916, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Navy, spent two days with the colors under theoretical war conditions and demonstrated to the Government that the wire and wireless forces of the Bell System were all ready for instant mobilization, for you know we linked up all of the Naval Stations of the United States with Washington and placed them within instant reach of the Secretary of the Navy. You, no doubt, recall how Secretary Daniels talked from his office to the battleship "New Hampshire" at sea, using our new wireless telephone, and you know that we showed Government officials conclusively that the Bell System was capable of furnishing whatever telephone communication would be necessary for war purposes. This preparedness of the Bell System for war demonstrated that as a corporation it is a good citizen, ready and willing to do its bit, and I think you will agree with me that since war was declared it has demonstrated still further that it is a good citizen and that it is doing its bit.

When this country declared war it needed at once a great amount of telephone service to mobilize the men, money, materials, and munitions required. The long distance traffic from our capital in Washington doubled and trebled. New telephones were called for. Heavy demands for service were the orders of the day. Immediately hundreds of trained operators volunteered their services and were sent to Washington to help out with the traffic. Engineering and Plant people were rushed to the scene and Washington was taken care of. A number of our own Hudson Division operators are now at Washington serving the Bell System and Uncle Sam. There were no hesitation and no red tape about all this. The country needed the service and the Bell System furnished it. That's all there is to it. We were there ready to do whatever was required of us. We acted promptly, patriotically, and efficiently, just as we aim to do in all undertakings, be they large or small.

Telephone Efficiency Demonstrated

WHAT happened in Washington has occurred on a smaller scale in all of the principal cities and towns throughout our country. A great amount of equipment has been required at the army camps, at the naval training stations, at the plants making supplies for the Government and in many other places. Many of you men have installed some of the equipment, and I don't have to tell you your work has been well done according to the high standard of the Bell System.

The long distance traffic increased tremendously because of war activities and upwards of twelve thousand special operators throughout the country have been trained to handle it, the guiding principle being that the country needed something and whatever it needed we gave without quibbling and without delay. It was all in line with our every day policy to serve the public well and our every day Bell System spirit to make good on the job, so we just threw the machine into high and raced through with it.

Serving Uncle Sam

HOWEVER, Uncle Sam needed something more than this. He needed trained telephone men in his army. As to that, there was no hesitation on the part of the men of our company. At headquarters, 15 Dey Street, New York City, there is a big service flag and its stars show that one thousand and nine of our boys have answered the call to the colors. A great many of these boys joined the Volunteer Signal Corps battalions, organized by our company. There are competent telephone men, who, by their work in the various camps and by their work somewhere in France, have made even the officers of the regular United States army sit up and take notice. Forty-two of the boys serving Uncle Sam in the army and navy are from the Hudson Division.

When Uncle Sam needed some real executives to help him organize his various departments and committees he naturally went to the Bell System. First, there's Mr. Vail, chief of the Bell System, helping Uncle Sam as chairman of the Committee on Telephones and Telegraphs of the Council of National Defense, serving on the Wheat Price Fixing Committee, and busy with other activities relating to the war. There's Mr. U. N. Bethell, chairman of the Industrial Committee for the Liberty Loan Campaign in the Second Federal Reserve District. There's Mr. Carty, chief engineer of the Bell System, now Colonel Carty, consulting expert on telephone and telegraph matters for the regular army. There's Mr. Kingsbury, serving with Mr. Vail on important committees in Washington. There's Mr. DuBois, comptroller of the A. T. & T. Company, acting as comptroller of the Amer-

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ican Red Cross. There's Mr. Greer, formerly of our company and known to many of you in the Hudson Division, giving all of his time in the service of the Red Cross. But why go through all the list? Go to any town in the Hudson Division or throughout the territory of the company, or, in fact, throughout the whole Bell System, and ask who are the real, live, active men of the local Liberty Loan Committees, on the Red Cross Committees, the Y. M. C. A. Committees, on the Food Saving Committees. You will no doubt find that the Chairman of the Committee, the Vice Chairman or the Treasurer, is a telephone man and is giving a lot of his time to the work.

Company Active in Red Cross and Liberty Loan Campaigns

I HAVE referred to what some of our officials are doing for the Red Cross. I wish to add that when the war came to us and it was found advisable to re-organize the Red Cross in Washington, there was a generous loan of men from our company and from the American Telephone and Telegraph Company to help in that re-organization. They were selected from the corps of our best telephone men — commercial men, real estate men, commercial engineers, publicity men, systematizers and organizers. They went to Washington, where they worked through the hot summer months. They established routine and they helped to bring order out of chaos. Their work was of great value to the Red Cross, because it provided for system, which had been sadly lacking.

Further, when the country needed money and called upon all good citizens to subscribe for the Liberty Loan Bonds, how did our company respond? Almost immediately a generous subscription was made by the Bell System, both for the First Liberty Loan and the Second Liberty Loan. In addition, a well-thought-out plan was inaugurated—and, by the way, we were one of the pioneers in inaugurating such a plan—whereby every employee could purchase Liberty Loan Bonds and pay for them by weekly or monthly installments out of his or her salary. Employees of our company bought over six hundred and fifty thousand dollars' worth of the Second Liberty Loan under this plan.

Nor did we stop there. Our men turned to and helped sell the bonds. Our President, Mr. U. N. Bethell, was Chairman of the Industrial Committee for the Second Federal Reserve District, and Mr. McCulloh was the chairman of the committee for our company. The work was well organized. Our publicity men brought out large quantities of material dealing with the loan. Our Auditing Department addressed and mailed a card to every telephone subscriber in our territory for the Liberty Loan Committee, and in this work the Hudson Division Accounting Department contributed its full share of activity. We helped the committee make up lists and checked them as to accuracy, using our telephone directories as guides. In the drive for the Second Liberty Loan our commercial offices were opened on Liberty Loan Day for the sale of Bonds. A great many of our Commercial Department salesmen volunteered for the work, and we sold nearly half a million dollars' worth in small lots. Here in the Hudson Division alone forty-nine men sold $35,000 worth.

Once more Uncle Sam wanted help for the Red Cross and he came to the telephone company. In coöperation with the Red Cross Campaign Committee, we printed and distributed with our December 1 bills a notice to all telephone subscribers in our territory, urging them to become members of the Red Cross before Christmas. This, by the way, was a big job, bound to do a lot of good, and I'll tell you just one incident in connection with it.

Down in New York City there's an Italian who received one of these notices with his telephone bill. He wanted to join the Red Cross, but he didn't know where to go to join. The day after he received the notice with his bill he sent a dollar to the Local Commercial Manager in his district, with a letter saying that he wished to become a member of the Red Cross and wouldn't the telephone company please take care of it for him. It seems to me that this is pretty good evidence that the public believes in the integrity and the uprightness of the telephone company. This was undoubtedly only one proof of many that the work we did in this connection was of great assistance in getting new members.

Helping to Win the War

WHEN Mr. Hoover wanted to reach the people of our country quickly and to encourage them to save food, he, too, turned to the telephone company for help. At his request our commercial agents telephoned every clergyman in our territory on a certain day and asked that they deliver a sermon on the following Sunday on food conservation.

Within the past few days the Red Cross turned to the clergy to enlist their aid in getting members for the Red Cross, and once more we telephoned all the ministers in our territory and enlisted their aid in this splendid work. These are only a few things that have been done by our company to help America win this war, but they are the kind that count and in which you and I and every other man in the telephone company is proud to have some part. Back of all this work stands the ever present necessity of maintaining the service at the same high standards of excellence to which the public is accustomed. We know something of the way our Engineering Department, and our Plant Department, and our Traffic Engineering Department and other departments have been working day and night to devise substitutes for materials difficult to secure, to develop new methods for handling the work, to secure and route materials from widely scattered sections of our territory to places where they are needed at once on Government work. If we could have a picture of all that is being done by the telephone company, I think we would be astounded and gratified and conclude there is nothing impossible as to service over here.

Let us take a far off look and get the best view we can of what our boys are doing "over there." I think there is a world of meaning in this simple statement by Lord Northcliffe in the New York *Times* of December 6:

"Our party then returned to the railway station, passed the grim guard of honor and after a new journey arrived at General Pershing's general headquarters, a fine French barracks lately occupied by one of the most distinguished of French regiments, which had been re-fitted, steam heated and electric wired, and is in telephone touch with distant Paris and all the various parts of the American Army."

On to Victory!

THINK of it! The system is up and working! You and I know it will be kept working too, day and night, as long as the Kaiser compels us to match his designs with the best American brains, energy, and pluck. The telephone system our boys have built will work until they hear over its wires that magic word VICTORY, spoken in good American language and meaning that the job is done and they can come back home to us again.

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Income Taxation

Under Laws Now in Force, as Affecting Employees for the Year 1917—Second Paper

IN the December issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW an article was published designed to inform employees as to the basic features and principles of the Income Tax laws now in force, as affecting their income for the year 1917. Readers of that article can readily determine whether they are obliged to make a return of income to the Government, and if so, how, when, and where the return should be made, and generally upon what basis the tax, if any, is computed. They are also aware that the basis of tax in each case is the net income of the individual man or woman, arrived at by subtracting from the gross income actually received from all sources during the year 1917 certain items allowed by the law as deductions, such as interest and taxes actually paid, losses sustained, bad debts, depreciation, maintenance, etc., to all of which attention was called in detail. Generally speaking, deduction items will not be numerous or difficult to compute in making the return. Obviously, therefore, it is of chief importance to consider just what items are to be included by the individual in computing gross income. Gross income having been computed, a simple calculation will produce the net income, to which the individual will apply the amount of exemption to which he is entitled by reason of status as single or married person or head of a family, as explained in the first article. The remainder, if any, is the amount subject to tax.

What Is Income?

ORDINARILY, in the case of employees, income will be found to have been derived from (a) salaries and wages, (b) interest, (c) dividends and (d) rents. Here, also, probably little difficulty will be encountered in determining the amount to be reported to the government under the last three subdivisions. As to these items, it is sufficient to say that all income actually received by the individual during the year 1917 should be included, together with income, if any, from all other sources, such as gains, profits, etc.

The item of salaries and wages, however, presents a different situation, which is worthy of consideration and analysis, it being assumed that income of employees is derived largely from the compensation paid them by the company for services rendered and that they desire assistance primarily in the making of proper reports to the government of their income so derived.

It should be understood that while, generally, income from salaries and wages is measured by the total amount actually received by the employee from the company, nevertheless, included in such total amount there may be items which should not be reported as income, because not received as compensation for services. These items are enumerated below.

On the other hand, while income is computed on the basis of the amount actually received during the year, there is the important exception that deductions of salaries and wages made by the company at the employee's request, on account of the purchase of American Telephone and Telegraph Company stock or of Liberty Bonds, are to be included as income, for the reason that amounts so deducted are simply installment payments due from employees.

Sources of Income

TO avoid confusion, therefore, it may be stated that for telephone employees, so far as payments by the company are concerned, income includes:

(a) Salary and wages, both regular and overtime (in the case of Plant Department employees paid at the "short" rate, the wages will be computed at the "long" rate).

NOTE: The salary and wage payments prescribed above will be the "total amount due" the individual; that is, the total amount earned and due the employee before any deductions are made for stock or bond subscriptions.

(b) Benefit payments, both sickness and accident, paid from the Employees' Benefit Fund.

(c) Wage allowances for time not worked.

(d) Other benefit payments (not paid from the Benefit Fund), such as payments after the regular fund payments have ceased, and payments during sickness to employees not eligible to benefits from the Benefit Fund.

(e) Awards by State Compensation Commission whether paid in a flat amount or in installments.

(f) Anniversary payments to the Traffic Department operators.

(g) Payments, whether by the government or by the company, to employees in military service, including allowances to dependents, less the amount of such allowances repaid to the company.

Income does *not* include:

(a) Amounts paid to individuals as reimbursements for carfare.

(b) Supper money.

(c) Amounts paid in reimbursement for travelling expenses.

(d) Dividends credited employees' accounts under Stock Purchase Plan.

(e) Interest credited employees under Liberty Bond Purchase Plan.

As to (d) it should be observed that when the stock is fully paid for and taken over by the owner, the amount of dividends credited should be treated as income for the year in which the transaction is closed, and similarly, the interest charges, if any, as shown by the final statement rendered by the Company to the employee, should be included in deductions for that year.

As to (e) it is to be noted that in preparing return of net income for the year in which the transaction is closed, (a) interest accruing on the 3½ per cent Liberty Bonds is free from tax and, therefore, should not be included by the individual in computing his net income; (b) interest accruing on the 4 per cent Liberty Bonds is free from tax in the case of all individuals whose net income does not exceed $5,000 and, accordingly, should not be included in computing the net income of such persons. In the case of individuals whose net income exceeds $5,000 and who, therefore, are subject to the additional tax imposed by the act of 1917, interest accruing on the 4 per cent Liberty Bonds is free from tax to the extent of interest on an amount of such bonds, the principal of which does not exceed in the aggregate $5,000. This means that interest aggregating not more than $200 is exempt from tax. Interest in excess of $200 is subject to the additional tax, and should be included in net income and thus reported.

Who Makes Income Reports?

IN the first article the attention of employees was called to the fact that the company is required to report to the Government the name and address of each person in its employ to whom it has paid during the year 1917 salaries and wages of $800 or more.

In view of the fact that the year 1917 is the first year for which this report is required and of the further fact that in many cases employees may be in doubt as to the exact amount received by them during that year, the company will furnish to each employee to whom it has paid during the year 1917 salaries and wages of $800 or more, the exact amount which it has paid him and which it must report to the government as having been so

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paid. This information will be furnished in ample time for the employee to give it consideration in preparing his return.

In this connection, it is to be borne in mind that the amount reported by the company as having been actually paid to the individual during the year 1917 need not necessarily agree exactly with the amount reported by the individual as having been actually received during the year 1917 as salaries and wages. This is so because of the fact that the company's report will reflect actual payments as shown by its books, and salary payments included in the last pay-roll in December in some cases may not reach the individual until after December 31, in which event such payments will be reported by the individual as part of his 1918 income, whereas they will be included by the company in its report of salary paid to him during the year 1917. Likewise, an employee may have actually received salary or wage income during the first few days of 1917 which will not be included by the company in its report of payments made to him during 1917, because, according to its books, the payment was made in 1916. If the two amounts disagree, the individual should report the total sum which, according to his record, he has actually received during the year 1917.

For the reasons already stated, the plan above outlined will be followed as to payments made to employees during the year 1917 only. The company will not undertake to inform employees as to total salary and wage payments during the year 1918, or for subsequent years.

Begin to Keep Your Records

BEGINNING with January 1, 1918, therefore, each employee should keep a record of his income from salaries and wages paid to him from time to time by the company employing him. This record, so far as payments by the company are concerned, should embrace only the items above enumerated as comprising taxable gross income. For his own benefit and use he should also record items of income from all other sources and, of course, all amounts which he may desire to claim as deductions, in arriving at his net income for the year 1918 and subsequent years.

In the next article it is proposed to reproduce the official government blank form of return of net income and to make such comments and suggestions as seem advisable as to its preparation, and filing, at the same time furnishing illustrations of a proper method of preparing the return in cases believed to be typical.

Our Own Telephone Bride

MISS BETTY VALENTINE, of the office of the Division Auditor of Receipts, Long Island, is the first employee of the New York Telephone Company, so far as we have heard, to utilize the telephone for the purpose of marriage.

Marrying by telephone has oft been indulged in, as related in these columns on many occasions, as, for instance, in November, when we described the marriage by telephone of a bride in Georgia and the groom in Hempstead, Long Island. Usually, however, this ceremony is one at which the participants prefer to be present in person, as even the "voice with the smile" over the wire loses some of the charm it possesses when the sweet "I will" is said amid blushes and confusion at the nuptial altar. Be that as it may, marrying by telephone sometimes is the only way, and thus by both bringing fond hearts together and uniting them, the little instrument outdoes Cupid at his own game.

But to return to Miss Valentine and her happiness. The groom is Mr. Arthur F. Johnson, formerly of the 14th Regiment, Brooklyn, now of the 106th Infantry. He was at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, South Carolina, whence he expected to be sent to France any day. Arrangements were therefore made for the wedding to take place by telephone. At her home in Brooklyn with Miss Valentine were gathered her mother and sister and a clergyman, and in a Y. M. C. A. house at Camp Wadsworth, Mr. Johnson was waiting with his brother, also of the 106th, and a clergyman. From the northland and the southland sped their plighted troth each to the other, and the blessings of the church upon both, and though there was no bridal march nor vested choir, nor any of the pomp and ceremony of a marriage festival, their lives henceforth were united in the holy bonds of matrimony.

To them both we extend the congratulations of the entire telephone fraternity.

Little Falls War Garden

IN the November issue of the TELEPHONE REVIEW, under the heading, "He Laughs Best Who Laughs Last," we were very glad to read of the success of the Telephone employees of Utica in "war gardening."

The Little Falls, New York, employees of the New York Telephone Company also had a "war garden." The ones interested were Wire Chief H. B. Risley, Assistant Wire Chief C. W. Sullivan, Repairman J. L. Klock, of the Plant Department; Local Manager W. S. Hall, and Salesman J. L. Clark, of the Commercial Department.

During the month of April the employees decided that a garden was one way for them to "do their bit." The employees held a meeting, talked the matter over, rented an acre and a quarter of land about two miles west of the city, and proceeded to start work. On Sunday, April 29, seven and one-half bushels of potatoes were planted. This took up about three-quarters of the ground. At a later date beets, tomatoes, turnips, cabbage, carrots, parsnips, cucumbers, onions, squash, beans and lettuce were also planted.

During the summer months, mornings, nights, holidays and Sundays we cultivated, fought bugs, weeds, blight and other things too numerous to mention; in fact, did everything which a regular farmer has to do in order to make crops a success; but in the end we consider we were very successful. Over one hundred bushels of potatoes were taken from the piece, which allowed each man twenty bushels, enough for his winter's supply, and also enough other vegetables to carry them through the winter.

The expense per man was between fifteen and twenty dollars. Allowing market value for the vegetables raised, our receipts were a little over fifty dollars per man.

We now plan to go into the gardening business again during 1918, and with the experience gained this year we feel certain we can do even better.

W. S. HALL,
Local Manager.

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Canvassing for the Second Liberty Loan

Master Paul Feiring, Age Seven, Purchasing a Liberty Bond in Our Plainfield Commercial Office

THE activities of employees in selling Liberty Bonds, described in this magazine for November, produced some very interesting items which lack of space prevented our printing last month. They retain their interest, however, especially as there will shortly be other Liberty Bond issues.

Jamestown Rang the Bell

THE following notice appeared on the front page of the Jamestown *Evening Journal* of Tuesday, October 23, and of the Jamestown *Morning Post*, October 24: "Buy a Liberty Bond and keep the Liberty Bell ringing in Jamestown, that the world may know that we are supporting the principles for which this bell is the emblem—Liberty, Humanity and Justice."

One morning, while considering the importance of making clear to the people the necessity for buying Liberty Loan Bonds, the lines printed came to the mind of our agent, R. B. O'Donnell, and he asked Miss Howard to typewrite them for him. He then took them to Liberty Loan headquarters and submitted them, with the result that they were immediately adopted and passed to newspapers for publication.

The "Liberty Bell" referred to is the old Jamestown fire bell, which was rung each time a bond was purchased.

A Seven-Year-Old "Doing His Bit"

A NEPHEW of one of our representatives, in Plainfield, "did his bit" by personally calling at the commercial office and signing an application for a Liberty Bond. The youngster was Master Paul Feiring, age seven years.

Murray Hill Commercial's Clock

DURING the last few closing days of the First Liberty Loan Campaign the Publicity Committee requested permission to install a Liberty Loan Clock above the entrance of the Murray Hill local commercial office at 72 East 42nd Street. This courtesy was readily granted and the prominence of the Loan Clock was so satisfactory to the committee that in the very beginning of the Second Loan Campaign they made a similar request which was also granted.

The Murray Hill local commercial office being located directly opposite the Grand Central Terminal, the Loan Clock attracted the attention of thousands daily. The hands of the clock, denoting the amount subscribed to the loan, were changed each day to show the progress, and as the interest in the success of the loan increased, the clock became the center of attraction to the passersby.

Thanks Our Operators

THE Woman's Liberty Loan Committee in Cranford sent the following letter expressing their appreciation of the service rendered by our operators in that city:

Cranford, N. J., Oct. 29, 1917.

Mr. R. C. Burr, Manager,
Eastern District, N. Y. Telephone Co.,
Elizabeth, N. J.

Dear Sir: At the final meeting of the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee it was voted to send a letter of thanks to the Telephone Company for the important service rendered to our committee by the Cranford Telephone Exchange.

Certainly Miss Greim and her corps of operators did "their bit" in assisting our committee to sell Liberty Bonds by giving us prompt and efficient and willing service. As one of the women remarked, the Exchange had no extra operators to answer the unusual number of calls that our work demanded. We fully realize this and are therefore desirous of having the Cranford Exchange know how greatly we appreciated their excellent service. The Woman's Liberty Loan Committee sold $45,650 worth of Liberty Bonds. The sales over the telephone were no small part of our total sales.

Thanking you personally as well as on behalf of the Committee,

I remain, sincerely yours,

ALICE LACKEY,
(*Chairman*) *Liberty Loan Committee.*

Murray Hill Commercial Office, With Liberty Loan Clock Above the Door

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One of Our Commercial Offices Turned Into a Liberty Bond Booth. The Local Commercial Office, Telephone Building, Albany, on Liberty Loan Day, October 24, 1917

Albany and the Hudson Division

ALTHOUGH a heavy rain fell in Albany from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon and very few people came to the office on that day, the employees under the leadership of W. B. Eddy had a number of subscriptions to their credit. In addition to the Local Office forces, our salesmen were assigned to certain districts by the Liberty Loan Committee with the result that a total of 14 employees secured 177 subscriptions amounting to $12,200.00.

The Hudson Division local offices at other places were similarly equipped with booths and advertising matter, and telephone company salesmen solicited subscriptions throughout each district. There were 49 employees assigned to this work in the Hudson Division, with the result that a total of 481 subscriptions, amounting to $35,800.00, was secured during the day.

Buffalo Employees' Great Service

THE employees in Buffalo say they enjoyed canvassing for the Liberty Loan very much, but besides this they were favored with the following very complimentary letter from the chairman of the General Committee of the Liberty Loan Committee:

November 10th, 1917.

New York Telephone Company,
Buffalo, New York.

Gentlemen: Please accept my personal thanks and the thanks of the Liberty Loan Committee for the aid and assistance you so generously gave during the recent campaign. The salesmen you loaned to the Emergency Committee during the last days of the campaign were of great service and helped make possible Buffalo's wonderful record.

Sincerely yours,
WALTER P. COOKE,
Chairman.

This Is the Spirit to Have

THE story of an incident which occurred in Nyack is told in the following statement. If the spirit of Americans is universally the same as that of this Greek, Uncle Sam can bring on as many Liberty Loans as he likes:

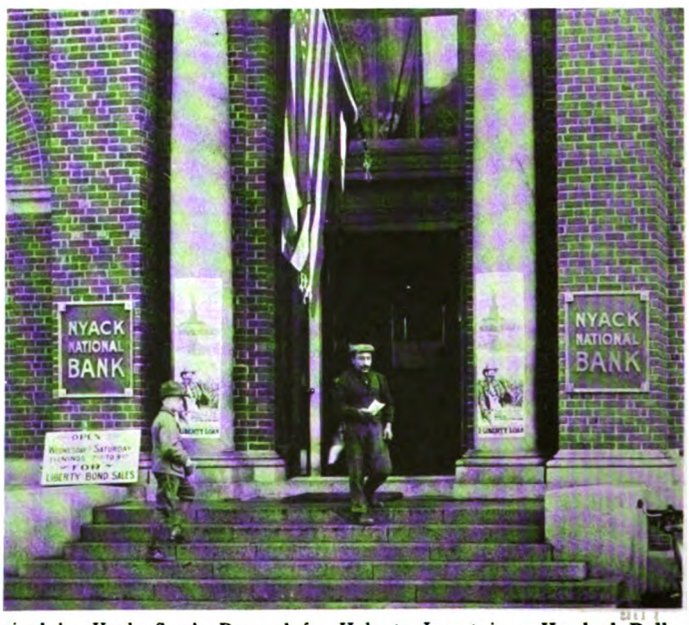
Nyack, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1917.

Costa Paraskeropoulos, a Grecian who resides at 40 Main Street, Nyack, N. Y., and conducts a peanut stand along side of the Nyack Motion-Picture Theatre, and directly across the street from the Nyack National Bank, as shown by the accompanying photographs, in making application at the Nyack National Bank for a one hundred dollar second Liberty Loan Bond, said to the teller: "If the United States Government needs my money to fight the Germans, it can have it, and I don't care whether I have a bond or not." He was persuaded to accept the bond.

DAVID CRANSTON,
Teller, Nyack National Bank.

I hereby witness signature and certify as to correctness of above statement.

JOHN M. GESNER,
President, Nyack National Bank.



Costa Paraskeropoulos, a Greek Peanut Vendor in Nyack, Who Was Inspired by Uncle Sam's Demand for Help to Invest in a Hundred Dollar Liberty Bond, Saying, "If the United States Government Needs My Money to Fight the Germans, it Can Have it, and I Don't Care Whether I Have a Bond or Not"

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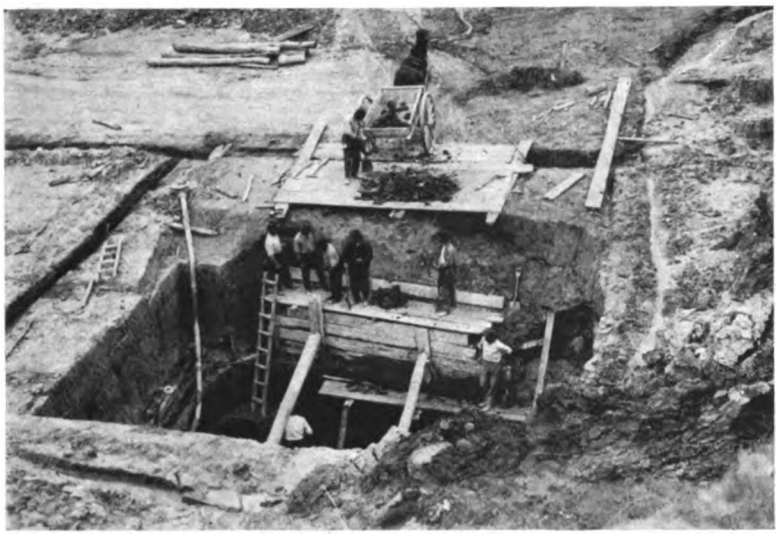
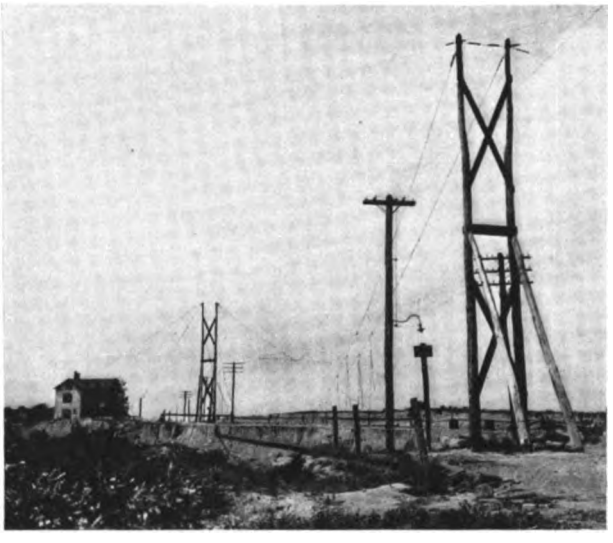
An Aerial Subway

By T. C. Smith, Engineering Department



Digging Clay Pit on Line of Subway Route



Supporting Structure at End of Span

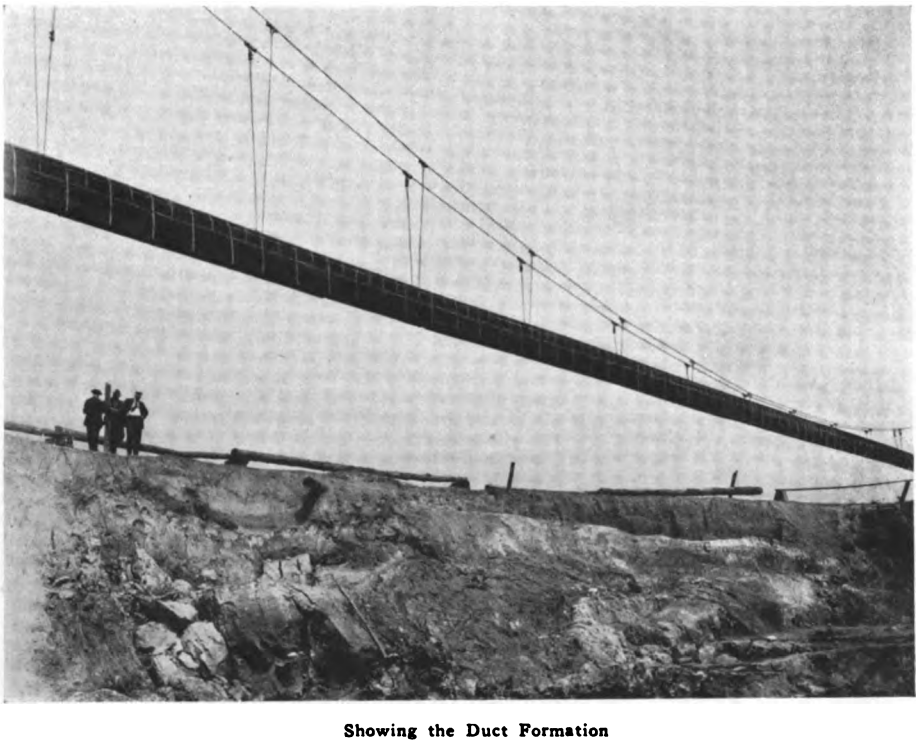
"SOMEWHERE in" New Jersey, an unusual type of construction was installed recently to support an important telephone subway which had been undermined and exposed by clay mining operations.

The Problem

The problem consisted of supporting three maximum size cables enclosed in creosoted wooden conduit, in an exposed span of over 250 feet. In addition to this, it was necessary to plan the construction for the probable addition of a fourth maximum-size cable. On account of clay pits which were being dug under the subway route, as shown in the first picture, it was impossible to place permanent supports from below. It was found to be impracticable to cut out and temporarily reroute this section of subway. This left the single alternative of suspending the exposed subway from above.

It was necessary to provide the supporting construction with the least delay possible. On account of the difficulty in securing special material within a reasonable time, it was necessary to plan the structure for supporting this aerial subway, in so far as practicable, from material in regular use by this company.

With these points in mind, a suspension bridge, 300 feet long between supports, was designed to meet the conditions.



Showing the Duct Formation

Main Supporting Strand

In calculating the maximum stresses in the different members of this bridge, it was assumed that the whole structure was coated with a ½-inch thickness of ice. When carrying three maximum-size cables in wood ducts, there would be a total load in the span of about 7½ tons. Using the greatest sag possible with 65-foot poles, which were the tallest available, this load would cause a tension in a single main suspension strand, of about 13,000 pounds near the poles, diminishing to about 11,000 pounds at mid-span. No allowance was made for wind pressure since it was planned to side guy the subway at three points, with horizontal guys, in both directions.

When carrying the structure including three cables, without the ice load, the maximum tension in this single suspension strand would be approximately 11,000 pounds.

Since we have no standard strand which will safely

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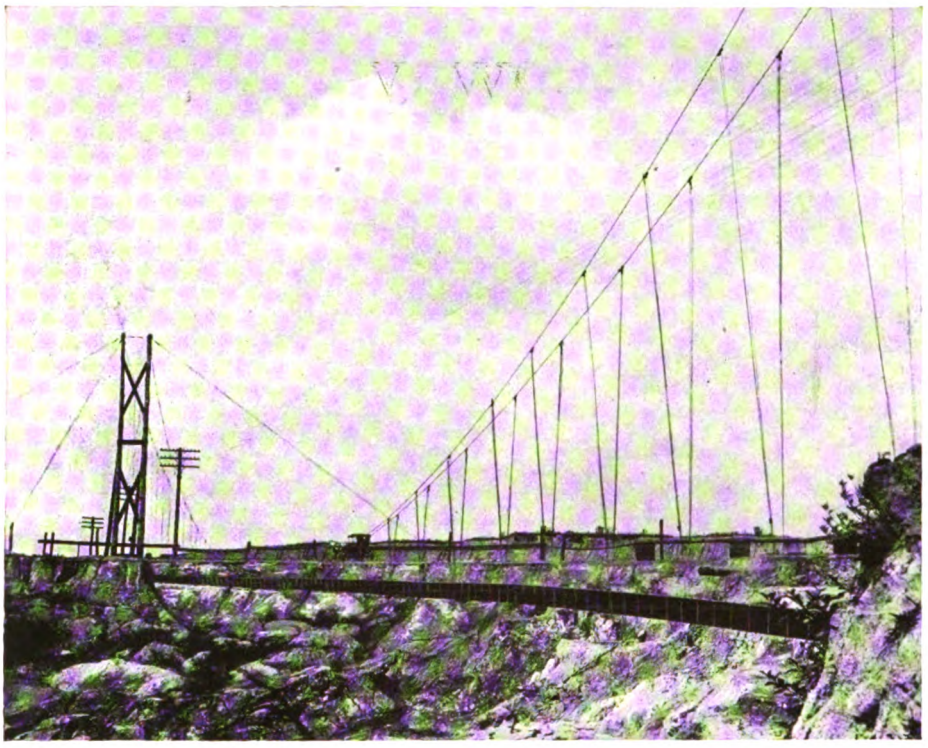

Showing the Manner of Connecting Suspension Strands to Steel Pipe by Vertical Leaders

sustain so great a load, it was necessary to plan the construction so that it would be suspended from two strands. By arranging these strands so that each of the two would take one-half of the load, the estimated maximum tension in each of the strands when carrying the three-duct subway and having the whole structure coated with ½-inch thickness of ice, would be approximately 7,000 pounds. The standard 16,000-pound strand is sufficiently strong for this load.

The two supporting strands carrying a subway in a horizontal position, as in this case, would very closely approximate the form of a parabolic curve. Using the different formulae for this curve, the exact lengths of all members of the structure were calculated.

The calculations indicated that with a sag of 58 feet approximately, and a 300-foot span, the total length of each suspension strand between poles would be about 328 feet.

Supporting Structures

In designing the supports for the ends of the span, it was necessary to consider not only the weight of the subway supported, but also the down-pull of the guys upon the poles. Investigations indicated that the soil at this location did not have sufficient bearing power to support safely the required weight at each end of the span, upon two 65-foot Class "A" pole butts. Additional bearing surface was provided by building a supporting bridge at the ground level between the two pole butts.

The calculations showed that on account of the length of these poles and the heavy load which they would be required to carry, there was danger of their buckling at some point between the guyed tops and the butts. This action was prevented by cross bracing between the poles, as shown in the second picture, to prevent buckling in a direction transverse to the subway; and a push-and-pull brace at the center of each pole was placed to prevent it from buckling with the line of the subway.

Guy Hooks

Standard guy hooks could not be depended upon to support the great weight to be carried at the top of each of the poles, so a special strap steel forging was made to fit over the top of each pole, for use in lieu of guy hooks. This special strap may be seen in Print No. A.

Vertical Leaders

In the span, 2,000-pound strand was used for vertical leaders. These vertical leaders were attached to the 16,000-pound main suspension strands by means of standard 3-bolt suspension clamps. In each clamp the two outside bolts were used for tightening upon the 16,000-pound strand. The 2,000-pound strand, with a thimble, was placed through the middle bolt hole, as shown in the third picture and print No. B.

In order to equalize the tension between the two sides of each vertical leader and thus evenly distribute the load between the two 16,000-pound suspension strands, a 2-inch steel pipe was used to act as a pulley under which each vertical leader was passed, as in the fourth picture. This pipe was made continuous by the use of screw couplings. It was laid horizontally in the bottom loops of the vertical leaders. In this position it formed a fairly rigid support to which the ducts of the subway could be firmly attached with wrappings of galvanized iron wire.

Execution of the Work

As usual this was a "rush job."

E. P. Bradley, aerial construction supervisor, assisted by Supervising Foreman D. T. Lewis and W. L. Rog-

250 Feet of Aerial Subway

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Subway Leaving Ground Near One of the Supporting Fixtures

ers, quickly got together the necessary material and made a general outline of the methods to be followed in executing this special piece of work.

A. C. Pilger, subway construction supervisor, of course did not have men who could handle this kind of a "subway" job. His part of the work consisted of delivering the creosoted wooden ducts and steel pipe upon the job. Then after the bridge was completed his men made the subway duct connections at each end of the span.

The actual construction work was done by Foreman G. C. Holmes, assisted by the following men:

Foreman P. J. Ryan
Chauffeur C. B. Anderson
Lineman J. Bateman
Lineman H. Bick
Lineman A. Burnhardt
Lineman J. Flagle
Lineman C. R. Hankinson
Lineman J. Hess
Lineman S. Hutchinson
Lineman H. Jensen
Lineman M. Keary
Lineman C. Long
Lineman R. M. Merkel
Lineman A. Munn
Lineman W. Whitcraft

Foreman Holmes handled this job as if he were a veteran suspension-bridge builder. After the pieces of strand were measured, cut, and clamped in place it was not necessary in any case to unclamp them for adjustment. During the construction it was impossible to judge whether or not the bridge would finally take the desired form, until all members were clamped in position and the linemen had climbed off the span.

When the suspended conduit was swung into position it met the ends of the adjoining subway nicely. While carrying the weight of the three maximum-size cables in their conduits, the subway showed an upward bow of about one foot in the middle.

The Telephone and Law

UNLIKE a Judge on Long Island who recently refused to hear a lawyer's plea over the wire, stating that the presence of the lawyer in the court room was required, Samuel W. Johnson, of Colorado, uses the telephone for court work with enthusiasm. The following newspaper account is witness to his satisfaction with his new method:

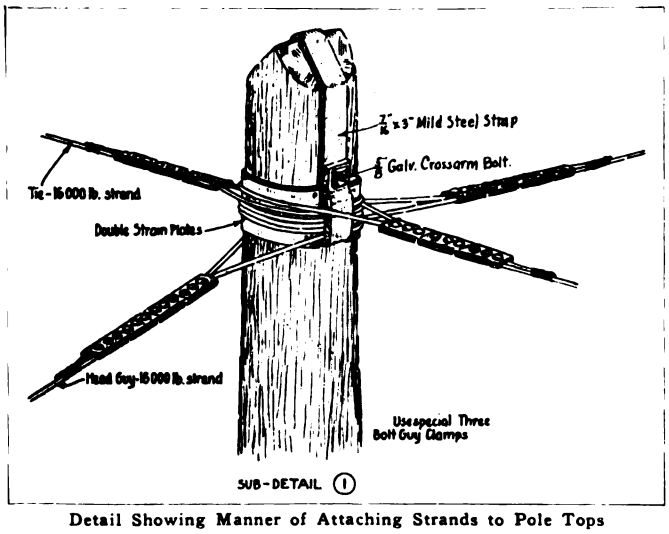
TRIES CASE BY 'PHONE

Brighton, Col., Nov. 16.—With food, fuel, and other commodities subject to intensive saving campaigns, "conservation" is the popular watchword in the Rocky Mountain region. . . . . .

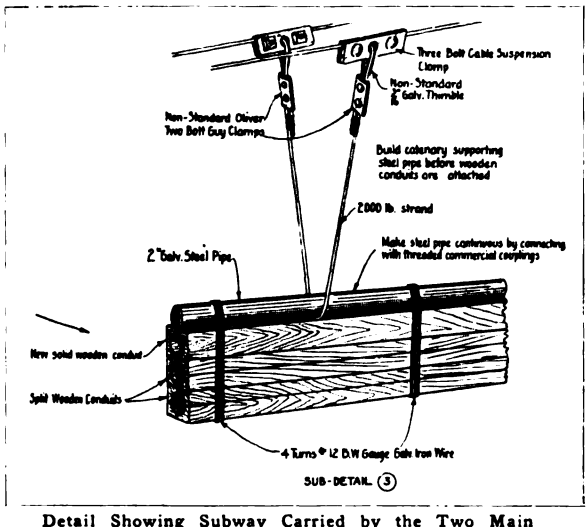
"Conservation of time, money, energy and fees" is what Samuel W. Johnson terms the new wrinkle. Johnson's jurisdiction extends over several counties adjacent to Denver, and he experiences considerable difficulty in being present in the various towns of the counties where several cases are set for the same day in different courts. So the busy prosecutor decided to use the telephone.

Sitting in his main headquarters in Denver, with a telephone receiver to his ear, Johnson listened to counsel for defense plead before a Judge in the local court here for the discharge of his client, a woman charged with "bootlegging." When Attorney Michael Waldron had finished his case for the defendant Johnson picked up the transmitter and presented evidence over the wire of sufficient weight to convict the defendant, who was fined $100 and costs.

Johnson declares his new method of handling cases will also result in the saving of much gasoline, as he can avoid traveling from town to town in the "buzz wagon."



Detail Showing Manner of Attaching Strands to Pole Tops


Three Bolt Cable Suspension Clamp
Non-Standard Galv. Thimble
Non-Standard Oliver Two Bolt Guy Clamps
Build catenary supporting steel pipe before wooden conduits are attached
2000 lb. strand
Make steel pipe continuous by connecting with threaded commercial couplings
2" Galv. Steel Pipe
New solid wooden conduit
Split Wooden Conduits
4 Turns # 12 B.W Gauge Galv Iron Wire
SUB-DETAIL (3)

Detail Showing Subway Carried by the Two Main Suspension Strands

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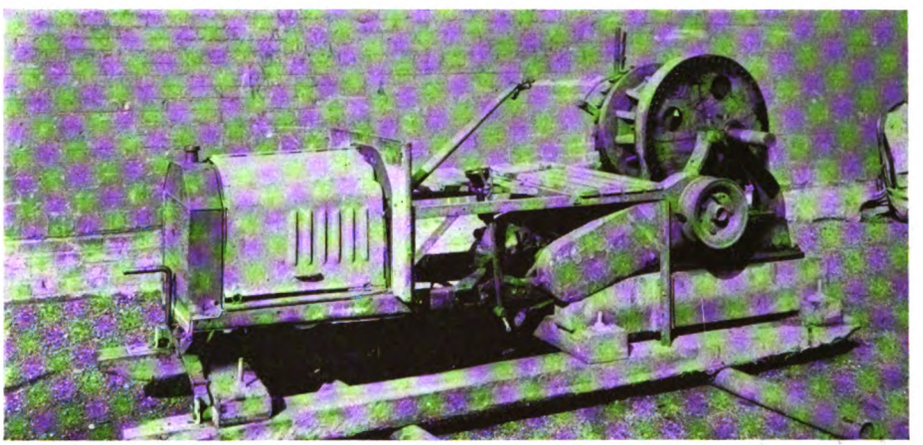
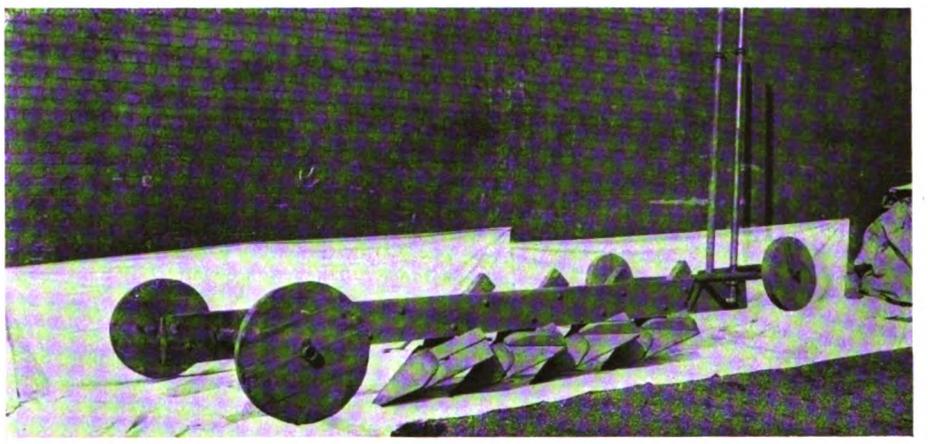
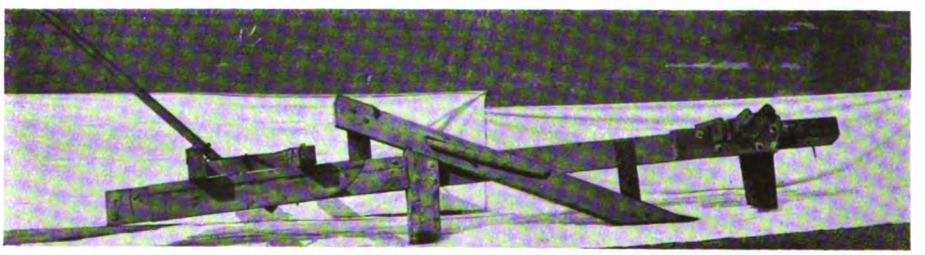
Long Island Division's New Undersea Craft and Marsh Plow



Ford Engines Are Used for Other Things Besides Running Automobiles, as Can be Seen in this Pulling Unit, in Which a Winch is Connected to a Ford Engine Through a Worm Drive



This Submarine Plow is Used for Trenching Under Water for the Purpose of Burying Cables; it is Propelled by the Winch Shown in the Preceding Illustration



In a Minute this Simple Little Plow Can Open a Trench in a Meadow 4 Inches Wide, 16 Inches Deep and 40 Inches Long. These Trenches are Used for the Purpose of Burying Lead Cable

IF, while wandering along the shores of Jamaica Bay, the Great South Bay, or any of the other numerous waterways that surround the Long Island coast, you see the Division's cable boat (the "Blue Bell") apparently in flight, pursued by a periscope, it will not be necessary to summon the United States Government Destroyer Fleet. The Blue Bell is merely engaged in the peaceful pursuit of burying a submarine cable so that it will be safe from the anchors of small boats, the spears of eel fishermen, or the rakes of clam or oyster diggers. The periscope belongs to the Division's new device for burying submarine cables in shallow water where there is a mud bottom. The sketch and the accompanying pictures tell the story. The plow buries the cable 14 inches in the mud and has proved an unqualified success.

The Long Island Division has also developed a plow for burying cables across salt marshes, where the resistance of the soil readily lends itself to such a mechanical device. This trench plow opens a trench 4 inches wide and 16 inches deep at the rate of 40 feet per minute, when pulled by a Ford engine suitably geared to a winch. The plowshare is curved in such a way that it throws up a layer of sod which merely has to be pulled back into the trench with a rake after the cable has been laid. The line of the trench is then monumented with concrete posts where the submarine cable is spliced to the lead cable and with creosoted wood stakes at about 100-foot intervals across the marshy islands. As shown in the picture, the plowshare is preceded by two cutters which experience shows have to be staggered. When the cutters are placed opposite each other too much resistance is encountered.

Both the submarine and land plows were developed and built by Supervising Foreman F. Persson. The old Ford engine was also adapted by him for operating the power winch.

Showing Method of Operating the Submarine Plow

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The Telephone Society of New York

Rochester Chapter

THE thirty-seventh meeting of the Telephone Society, Rochester Chapter, was held Friday evening, December 14, in the telephone building. The regular business meeting was eliminated.

The speaker of the evening, Captain Robert A. Donald, of the Seventy-fifth Canadian Infantry, was introduced and gave an informal address of his experiences on the Belgian and French fronts. Captain Donald started with a brief description of the necessary steps in training an army for the battle front, and ended with anecdotes of his own district. His regiment was one of the first to assist in blocking the German drive in Belgium, and was also engaged in the battle of the Somme, and others. The talk was intensely interesting, and inasmuch as the Captain's philosophy forbade him from dwelling on the disagreeable side of a soldier's life, he left a particularly pleasant impression.

Several patriotic songs were sung by the one hundred and twenty-five members present, under the leadership of Mr. George Estes, who also rendered several vocal solos.

G. A. MORLEY, Sec.-Treas.

Company First Aid Supplies Give Only Relief Obtainable to Subscriber in Tragic Case

WHILE Mr. George Gillis, of Victor, N. Y., was oiling a motor tractor, his clothing caught in the fly or belt wheel, and he was whirled around and practically every bone in his body was broken. Death followed a few hours later. Without the aid of the First Aid kit carried by F. W. Murphy, installer-repairman at Canandaigua, N. Y., it would have been almost impossible for the physicians to have administered any relief.

Mr. O'Hea forwards the following letter from the doctors, showing again the fine results that the First Aid work of the Company is constantly achieving:

MR. CHARLES W. WALTERS,
Canandaigua, N. Y.

Dear Sir.—The efficiency as expressed in the First Aid movement by industrial firms was shown by the New York Telephone Company when their lineman, Mr. F. W. Murphy, was passing a country home where a young man was injured by a gas tractor. The doctors called were at a convention at Canandaigua, and when they arrived they were limited as to equipment, and the New York Telephone Company's First Aid kit lent valuable assistance to the young man's surgical welfare.

Respectfully,
C. A. ROWLEY,
A. M. MEAD.

A Telephone Skit

THE Musical Revue, entitled "Odds and Ends of 1917," which had its premier at Syracuse, has a very humorous skit on the telephone, entitled, "The Voice With the Smile Wins."

This skit takes place in Part 2. It made a big hit here, and had everybody doubled up with laughter. Briefly, the skit is as follows:

Mr. Jos. Herbert, Jr., comes before the footlights and announces to the public that the Telephone Company has gotten out a very interesting pamphlet entitled "The Voice With the Smile Wins," and he then proceeds to read from one of our own advertising pamphlets the suggestions made by the Company as to the proper way to telephone, etc. He then takes up a telephone and says, "This is the way they would like to have you do it," and speaks very politely to an imaginary operator, etc. He then states, "But this is the way it usually happens." The curtain goes up and there is a booth in the center of the stage with one of our placards "The Voice With the Smile Wins" at the top, and a small switchboard at each side, attended by an operator. Harry Watson, Jr., comes in with a number of bundles under his arm, and endeavors to call his home in Williamsburg. This furnishes a basis for a good deal of real comedy.

My reason for writing you is that I recall an article "somewhere" in one of the recent issues of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, asking for reports as to when and where we have seen or heard the phrase "The Voice With the Smile Wins" referred to, and I thought this might be the first case of its kind that has come to your notice, and that you might like to check it up when the show opens in New York.

W. J. O'HEA,
District Manager,
Rochester.

The most unique hearing ever recorded in Millville, N. J., took place recently, when John Davenport, of Bridgeton, was given a trial by telephone by Mayor Whitaker. Davenport was locked up charged with being intoxicated, and his employer, lacking help, asked that he be released so he might return to work. Officer Haines, who made the arrest, was in a dilemma, and called the mayor, who was in Bridgeton, by telephone, says an exchange. The mayor told the officer to put the prisoner on the wire.

"Are you guilty or not guilty?" asked his honor over the phone.

"Guilty," replied Davenport.

"Your fine is $4.20," said the mayor.

"All right. I'll pay it," replied the prisoner, as he turned the money over to the policeman and bade the mayor good-bye. —*The Evening Mail, N. Y.*

Indoor Sports

THE tribulations of a ticket agent would wring tears from a stone, if a stone could read the following plaintive appeal recently received at our Plainfield office, written in caps on a typewriter:

MR. A. B. WILSON, COM' MGR.,
NEW YORK TELEPHONE CO.,
PLAINFIELD,
NEW JERSEY.

DEAR SIR:

IT HAS OCCURRED TO ME THAT IF I WERE TO PLACE CERTAIN FACTS BEFORE YOU IN CONNECTION WITH PHONE SERVICE AT THE PAY STATION —— THAT YOU MIGHT POSSIBLY GRANT A REQUEST THAT I WILL MAKE OF YOU.

DURING THE COURSE OF DAY AS I AM ON DUTY FROM SEVEN TO SEVEN YOU PERHAPS HAVE NO IDEA THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS THAT IS PUT TO ME BY THE PEOPLE WHO WISH TO USE THE PHONE. I WILL DEMONSTRATE TO YOU SOME OF THEM.

IS THERE A PAY STATION HERE? WHERE IS IT? WHAT'S THE RATE TO THIS OR THAT PLACE? OH MY! THE PAGES ARE TORN OUT OF THIS BOOK! CAN YOU TELL ME THE NUMBER OF SO AND SO, OR WILL YOU LET ME TAKE YOUR BOOK? SAY, LET ME HAVE SOME CHANGE, PLEASE. HOW DOES THIS THING WORK? I AM NOT USED TO THIS KIND OF A MACHINE. SAY, TICKET AGENT, I PUT MONEY IN THIS PHONE AND CAN'T GET ANY ANSWER. WILL YOU REFUND ME MY CHANGE? AND SO IT GOES FROM MORN TILL NIGHT.

NOW I DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO FURNISH THE CUSTOMERS WITH NOT ONLY INFORMATION AND CHANGE, EVEN WHEN I AM BUSY AT MY OFFICE DUTIES, BUT TRY TO ASSIST THEM THROUGH THEIR TROUBLES IN EVERY WAY I CAN.

WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY IS THIS. CAN YOU POSSIBLY ARRANGE TO GIVE ME A HALF RATE ON MY HOUSE PHONE —— TO OFFSET THE TIME I PUT IN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PHONE CO.? WE HAVE BEEN SUBSCRIBER FOR SERVICE A NUMBER OF YEARS, PAYING THE TWO DOLLAR RATE.

WHAT I ASK FOR AMOUNTS TO ABOUT THREE AND ONE-THIRD CENTS PER DAY REDUCTION. THE INFLUENCE OF ONE FIVE CENT CALL MORE THAN OFFSETS THE ABOVE. THINK THIS MATTER OVER AND LET ME HEAR FROM YOU AT YOUR LEISURE AND I AM SURE YOUR COMPANY WILL NOT BE ANY POORER BY GRANTING MY REQUEST, AS IT WILL BE MORE THAN MADE GOOD AS THE TIME GOES BY.

YOURS TRULY,
[Signature]

Alex Bell's Telephone Company is to have its Far Hills central office in Tom Day's house from now on. Tom agreeing to it he knowing Mr. Bell's Company is a reliable firm.—*Gleaner, Newark Sunday Call.*

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Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

E. H. Gosline, appointed chief clerk to the Supervisor of Traffic, 15 Dey Street.

Miss Martha Ecks, senior operator, Operators' Training Department, appointed supervisor.

Miss Loretta C. McGorry, senior operator, John, appointed supervisor.

Miss Sarah Cummings, evening senior operator, Gramercy, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Emma Schaechtele, senior operator, Madison Square, appointed supervisor.

Miss May Reed, Information Bureau supervisor, Murray Hill, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Margaret I. Duffy, evening supervisor, Columbus, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Rose Flynn, supervisor, Lenox, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Margaret Miller, senior operator, Lenox, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Catherine Bartley, evening senior operator, Rhinelander, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Rosetta C. Shortt, evening senior operator, Riverside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss May Bartell, senior operator, Morningside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Alice Halliday, evening senior operator, Audubon, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Martha W. Stricker, senior operator, Kingsbridge, appointed supervisor.

Miss Christine Bausbach, evening senior operator, Cathedral, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna V. Dunn, evening senior operator, Columbus, appointed evening supervisor, Canal.

Miss Anna M. Crowe, night supervisor, Circle, appointed night chief operator, Lenox.

Miss Margaret Mullen, supervisor, Plaza, appointed assistant chief operator, Lenox.

Miss Helen Eilenberg, evening chief operator, Lenox, appointed assistant chief operator, Rhinelander.

Miss Jeanne Allison, evening senior operator, Schuyler, appointed supervisor, Riverside.

Miss Mary F. Sullivan, senior operator, Morningside, appointed evening supervisor, Canal.

Accounting Department

Miss Florence G. Ehrlich, senior toll clerk, appointed toll supervisor, Murray Hill accounting office.

H. J. Baum, chief bookkeeping supervisor, Harlem accounting office, appointed general clerk, Murray Hill accounting office.

John Garriques, general clerk, Westchester accounting office, appointed chief bookkeeping supervisor, Harlem accounting office.

T. M. Smith, contract verification clerk, appointed bookkeeping supervisor, Harlem accounting office.

New Jersey Division

Plant Department

Conrad H. Fisher, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Orange sub-district.

Wilbur C. Acken, foreman, appointed supervising foreman, Orange sub-district.

Archibald Brown, lineman, appointed line foreman, Jersey City sub-district.

Richard Dennison, lineman, appointed line foreman, Jersey City sub-district.

Paul Tillman, lineman, appointed line foreman, Jersey City sub-district.

Thomas R. Wynne, insideman, appointed fire chief, Waverly, Newark district.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Margaret E. McCabe, evening supervisor, Richmond Hill, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Louise Dassau, senior operator, Decatur, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Ethel J. Swales, evening senior operator, Decatur, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Veronica A. Begley, senior operator, Astoria, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Anna E. Coyle, evening senior operator, Prospect, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Bertha V. Kelly, evening senior operator, Jamaica, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Rose Argondizza, senior operator, Newtown, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Anna E. Carberry, night supervisor, Main, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Mary C. Slattery, senior operator, Astoria, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Catherine Carlisle, evening supervisor, Hamilton, appointed evening chief operator.

Westchester Division

Accounting Department

J. J. Carley, bookkeeping supervisor, Harlem accounting office, appointed general clerk, Westchester.

Traffic Department

Miss Mabelle A. King, appointed supervisor, New Rochelle.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Henrietta C. Murphy, evening toll senior operator, Albany Toll, appointed evening toll supervisor.

Miss Mary J. Coles, evening toll operator, Beacon, appointed evening chief operator.

The following girls left for Washington in November:

Miss Frances Bartley, Albany Main.
Miss Anna M. Cox, Albany Main.
Miss Agnes D. Cummings, Albany Main.
Miss Emma A. Cummings, Albany Main.
Miss Lillian Foley, Albany Main.
Miss Catherine E. Gleason, Albany Main.
Miss Margaret J. Mahan, Albany Main.
Miss Elizabeth F. Rooney, Albany Main.
Miss Hazel F. Bronk, Albany East.
Miss Marion I. Bamberg, Albany West.
Miss Mary A. Bickerman, Albany West
Miss Rhea M. Ducharme, Albany West.
Miss Carolyn A. Havens, Albany West.
Miss Mary M. Molitor, Albany West.
Miss Anna F. Prime, Albany West.
Miss Alice E. Thomas, Glens Falls.
Miss Nona A. McCarthy, Glens Falls.
Miss Corine Bazinet, Glens Falls.
Miss Mary P. Murphy, Glens Falls.
Miss Alice H. Taillie, Glens Falls.
Miss Anna M. Knauf, Albany Main.
Miss Bertha M. Bickerman, Albany West.
Miss Anna M. Boyle, Albany Main.

Central Division

Traffic Department

Miss Elizabeth Drake, evening chief operator, Ithaca, appointed evening chief operator, Elmira.

Miss Stella Kline, evening senior operator, Elmira, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Millie Breitenbecker, information operator, Ithaca, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss H. Elmyra Wells, senior operator, Johnson City, appointed supervisor.

Miss Catherine Enright, operator, Little Falls, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Spohn, night toll operator, Utica, appointed night chief operator.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Jessie Bennett, Lancaster, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Grace Loeb, Dunkirk, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Frances J. Raetz, Chase, appointed senior operator.

Miss Mary Mulford, Niagara Falls, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Florence Stack, Niagara Falls, appointed senior toll operator.

Miss Agnes Zaleski, Niagara Falls, appointed senior operator.

Miss Minnie Spence, Abbott, appointed senior operator.

Miss Mary Evans, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Cecilia H. Holland, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Alice G. Hughes, Seneca, service observer, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Lillian McCarthy, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Margaret A. Frank, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Catherine Mahoney, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Irene Schusterbauer, Tupper, appointed service observer.

Accounting Department

A. R. Roberts, general clerk, appointed chief bookkeeping supervisor.

A. C. Barmby, chief bookkeeping supervisor, appointed general clerk.

Letter written home by an Irish girl, fresh from the Sod, after being engaged in domestic service:

"It's a strange place I've come to, surely; cabs without horses, and the lady of the house playin' the pianner with her feet, and talkin' to herself perpetual down a candlestick in the hall."—*Mountain States Monitor.*

The manager of the big department store stood stock-still outside the little box-like chamber which held the telephone of the establishment, for he was a very startled manager indeed. Within the chamber he could hear Miss Jones, the stenographer, speaking, and this is a scrap of the conversation the startled man overheard:

"I love you, dear, and only you. I'm weeping my heart away. Yes, my darling, speak to me once more. I love you, dear, I love you so."

The young woman rang off and stepped out of the cabinet, to confront the angry manager.

"Miss Jones," he said, "that telephone has been fixed where it is for the purpose of convenience in conducting business, and not for love-making in office hours. I am surprised at you. Don't let it occur again."

The young woman froze him with a glance.

"I was ordering some new songs for the music department," she explained icily.—*Exchange.*

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

Municipal Contracts Fixing Rates Not Binding Upon Board

IN denying the application of the Commonwealth Water Company for a suspension in its behalf of the general rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners for the government of water companies in New Jersey, the Board said, among other things, that in fixing the rates of a public utility a municipality was exercising a sovereign power which resided only in the State and therefore an agreement or an ordinance of a municipality fixing rates could be effective only until the State saw fit to exercise its paramount right. That consequently such municipal contracts and ordinances entered into without statutory authorization did not prevent the Board from fixing just and reasonable rates, and that since the passage of the acts creating the Board and defining its powers the power of municipalities to impose conditions upon the exercise of franchise grants by utilities and to provide by contract respecting the rates and service of utilities was subject to the authority and control of the Board to fix rates and regulate service.

Railroad Company Cannot Compete for Public Telephone Business With Telephone Company

THE Colorado River Telephone Company complained to the Railroad Commission of California that the Colorado Southern Railroad Company had constructed a telephone line between two points in Riverside County, where complainant operated and had made an arrangement with the Western Union Telegraph Company to transmit telegraph messages over said telephone line, thereby depriving complainant of the patronage of the telegraph company which it had theretofore enjoyed. The Colorado Southern and the Western Union answered that they were not engaged in conducting a telephone business and did not intend to conduct such business. The evidence showed however that neither telegraph instruments nor operators were employed in handling the business at either of the points in question and that all of the messages were handled entirely by telephone at both points.

The Commission held that the line in question was a telephone line and was being operated as such even though used in handling telegraphic business. That, therefore, since it appeared that the California Southern was rendering telephone service to a portion of the public, i. e., the Western Union Telegraph Company and its patrons, without authority in a territory theretofore served by complainant, such service must cease and the California Southern Company must confine itself to using the line in question for the transmission of such messages as related to its own railroad business.

Temporary Free Service as Inducement to Subscribers Is Illegal

COMPLAINT was made to the California Railroad Company by Sumner and May that the San Diego Home Telephone Company was furnishing free telephone service to many of its patrons and had in many instances waived the installation deposit provided for in its filed rules and regulations. It appeared that the company had employed a woman solicitor, at a salary of $80.00 a month plus a commission of $4.50 for each new subscriber, whose method of procedure was to go to a prospective subscriber and arrange for a telephone to be installed free of charge and to authorize the subscriber to use the telephone without expense until such time as the solicitor should obtain as patrons of the company such friends of the prospective subscriber as the latter might designate. It further appeared that the solicitor herself paid the company the installation fee for each subscriber and, in most instances, also paid the subscriber's telephone rental. The Commission held that the method pursued by the solicitor as aforesaid was clearly a device to secure new subscribers who would not be expected to pay the installation fee or the established local exchange rates during at least a number of months. That this arrangement constituted a preference or advantage to such subscribers and a prejudice or disadvantage to the other subscribers of the company in violation of section 19 of the Public Utilities Act. It is therefore ordered that the company at once discontinue such discriminatory practices and charge and collect from all of its subscribers the rates for their respective classes of service set forth in its rate schedules on file with the Commission.

Regulated Monopoly Preferable to Competition

THE generally accepted view that a regulated monopoly is preferable to competition was again enunciated by the Second District, Public Service Commission of New York, in refusing to grant a petition of the Lawrence Park Heat, Light and Power Company for permission to operate in the village of Bronxville. The Commission states that when enacting the Public Service Commissions Law the State authorities gave definite recognition to what had for some time been an obvious fact, i. e., that in a great majority of cases competition between public utilities operating in a single field is productive of very bad results from the point of view both of the public and of the competing companies. The State recognized that competition almost invariably led to the partial or complete crippling of the enterprises which were subjected to it with the inevitable result that the service was not anything like as good as might reasonably be expected under happier and saner conditions. The legislature and the governor, without the slightest desire to protect vested interests at the expense of the people, concluded from their study of conditions that better results than any secured in the past could be had in the future by substituting for foolish and wasteful competition a system of State regulation and control under which whatever good there might be in a competitive system could be pre-

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served without resulting waste and public loss.

The Commission, therefore, held that were it to permit the Lawrence Park Company to introduce competitive conditions into Bronxville it would be acting in deliberate disregard of the law and the settled policy of the State by imposing upon the people of Bronxville a condition from which they might ultimately be heavy sufferers, since competition would lead to a rate war which might terminate in the bankruptcy of one or both competitors and in the eventual failure of either to give decent service. Further, the Commission held that the fact that the Westchester Lighting Company, which was at present serving Bronxville, also served practically the whole of Westchester County and that therefore the volume of competition resulting from the granting of the application would not seriously threaten the financial position of the Westchester Company was immaterial, since if competition were permitted in Bronxville notwithstanding that the service of the Westchester Company therein was efficient and its rates reasonable, there could be no possible excuse for a subsequent denial of similar applications for authority to operate in other communities served by the Westchester Company.

Charge for Desk Telephone in Residences Properly Larger Than That for Wall Telephones

THE Wisconsin Railroad Commission in approving the application of the Ontario and Wilton Telephone Company for authority to increase its rates, pointed out that there were several reasons why the use of desk sets should not be generally extended to residences, chief among them being the fact that very frequently proper facilities were not provided in residences for a desk telephone and that as a result the maintenance costs for such telephones were high because of breakage. That, therefore, the differential proposed by the company in favor of the wall telephone for residence service was warranted.

Municipality Cannot Barter With Police Power

THE City of Wausau and the Wausau Telephone Company submitted to the Wisconsin Railroad Commission on an agreed statement of facts, the validity of an ordinance of the city providing that the city should have the free use of certain of the poles and conduits of the telephone company. The Commission held that the ordinance was ineffective in so far as it was intended to require the company to furnish the facilities involved to the city free of charge, since under the statutes and the decisions of the Supreme Court the telephone company required no franchise from the city to carry on business therein. That, moreover, the ordinance could not be sustained as an exercise of the city's police power, since the city had no right to barter with the police power or to exact for itself financial benefits as a condition of its exercise since such power could be exercised only for the public good and welfare and not for public gain.

Burden of Proof as to Reasonableness of Telephone Rates

THE President and Trustees of the Village of Walton complained to the New York Public Service Commission, Second District, that the Walton People's Telephone Company, which was under contract with the village to charge not more than $12 a year for telephone service, was about to increase its rates above said figure. The Commission dismissed the complaint, holding that the contract in question which was in the form of a franchise, was not a bar to the fixing of reasonable rates by the Commission. Further, the Commission held that the burden of proving that the proposed rates of a public utility were unjust and unreasonable was upon the complainant, except in the case of common carriers, where the rule had been modified by statute, and that since the evidence offered by the telephone company showed that the proposed rates were in themselves scarcely sufficient to yield a fair return on the value of its property, and since there was no evidence to the contrary, it must be held that the rates proposed were not inherently unjust or unreasonable.

Rate of Return

THE Public Utilities Commission of Maine in dismissing the complaint of George H. Briggs and others, against the Peaks Island Corporation, a water utility, held that the company was entitled to rates sufficient to pay reasonable operating expenses including a reasonable allowance for depreciation and contingencies and a fair return on the value of the investment. The Commission stated that the return to the stockholders should be commensurate with the sacrifice which they have made in devoting their capital to public use with the resultant responsibilities of management and the risks involved in the business and the withdrawal of capital from other avenues of profitable employment. This return on the investment should be sufficient to attract capital to similar investments with the expectation of getting a reward in dividends from regular earnings and not from the flotation of securities. It should, therefore, be larger than the rate for money loaned to such a corporation, because the lender has a lien upon the property superior to the owner, and moreover takes none of the responsibilities of management.

Minimum Charge Proper

THE village of Frankfort sought an order of the New York Public Service Commission, Second District, prohibiting the establishment of a minimum charge of 50 cents per month by the Utica Gas and Electric Company, asserting that said charge was in violation of the provisions of the franchise granted to the company.

It appeared that the proposed minimum charge was not to apply where the amount of gas consumed at the regular rates equalled or exceeded the amount of the minimum charge.

The Commission refused to prohibit the establishment of the minimum charge, holding that the provisions of the franchise were not controlling and that the utility might be authorized to charge rates higher than those fixed in the franchise if in the opinion of the Commission the company was entitled to such a higher rate in order to properly serve the public, and to provide a reasonable return upon the property employed by it in the public service.

Summer Customers Not Entitled to Concessions From Full Yearly Rate

PERCY R. RICH and others complained to the Public Utilities Commission of Maine that the rates of the Biddeford and Sago Water Company were excessive. The complaint had special reference to the rates charged by the company in Old Orchard and the basis of the charge that the rates therein were excessive was the fact that most of the consumers in Old Orchard were summer users and were required to pay the full yearly rates.

The Commission dismissed the complaint holding among other things that summer customers were not entitled to any concession from the full yearly rate since the investment of the company in Old Orchard was made and invited in order to take care of the summer demand.

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NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, 15 DEY ST., NEW YORK

U. N. BETHELL, President
F. H. BETHELL, First Vice-President
H. F. THURBER, Vice-President
FORD HUNTINGTON, Vice-President
WALTER BROWN, Secretary & Treasurer
J. L. SWAYZE, General Counsel
C. T. RUSSELL, General Solicitor
R. V. MARYE, General Attorney

J. A. STEWART, General Manager
J. S. WILEY, General Auditor
E. F. SHERWOOD, Chief Engineer
H. C. CARPENTER, Engineer
T. P. SYLVAN, Asst. to Vice-President
E. A. GURNEE, Asst. Treasurer
WALDRON HOPPINS, Asst. Secretary
J. S. KENNEDY, Asst. Secretary and Secretary Employees' Benefit Fund Committee.

COMMERCIAL DEPT.

J. S. McCULLOH
General Com'l Supt.

W. F. BAKER
Asst. to Gen'l Com'l Supt.

A. D. WELCH
General Com'l Engineer

W. F. CROWELL
Advertising Manager

J. LENIHAN
Manager Collection Bureau

Manhattan-Bronx & Westchester

J. R. POLLOCK
Division Com'l Manager
104 Broad Street

Long Island

H. W. DRAKE
Division Com'l Manager
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

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281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

J. A. JAMISON, Jr.
Division Gen'l Manager
158 State Street
Albany

Central

D. C. COX
Division Gen'l Manager
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

C. A. SPAULDING
Division Com'l Manager
44 Church Street
Buffalo

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General Supt. Plant

A. W. ALLEN
Supt. Buildings & Supplies

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Real Estate Manager

W. T. GURNEE
Plant Accountant

Manhattan-Bronx & Westchester

BURCH FORAKER
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New Jersey

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Newark

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Division Plant Supt.
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Supervisor of Traffic

H. G. GREENE
Manager Public Telephones

A. D. SCOVEL
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Auditor of Disbursements

A. J. NORMAN
Auditor of Receipts

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New York

New Jersey

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Albany

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H. W. GAUL
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We Must "Follow-Up"

The story of the Gallipoli withdrawal is a tale of inadequate support. Like Salamanders clinging to the red-hot bars of a fiery furnace, the boys of Australia and New Zealand clung to the slopes of Anzac. Desperately, heroically they clung. No troops under any circumstances ever displayed greater soldierly qualities or upheld more sacredly the best traditions of England's Army. But they had to withdraw because the "follow-up" was not there.

To some of us it has been given to march with the columns of troops that go to France. And to others it is given to wave Godspeed. But he who marches and he who stays is equally a citizen of the world's mightiest republic and equally responsible for its success in this greatest of undertakings.

Then let us at home turn from our flag waving and consider how necessary we are, how useful we must be. Those who go to fight cannot hope to win by naked bravery and we cannot hope to win unless every individual at home does *all* he can. We must have no Gallipoli.

The Bell System is only one of the myriad great and small industries which are co-operating that nothing be left undone to keep a constant, efficient stream of men, guns, ammunition, food, clothing and comforts flowing to the front.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy ***One System*** ***Universal Service***

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NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine place a one-cent stamp on this notice, hand same to any postal employee and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers and sailors at the front. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW

VOL. 9 FEBRUARY 1918 No. 2

MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE O. SQUIER
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, U.S.A.

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In The Nation's Service

America is sending its best men to fight for freedom, and in their honor the whole land is dotted with service flags carrying the stars of sacrifice.

It is a far cry from the crowded city streets, above which floats our service flag, to the telephone exchange hidden in the front-line trenches. But the actuating spirit of service here and abroad remains unchanged.

The Stars and Stripes is the emblem which unites us in war for human liberty and national honor. The service flag is the emblem which unites us in mutual sympathy for the men who give themselves and for those who give their men.

These flags should inspire all citizens to greater endeavor and greater sacrifice. As one of the agencies of preparation and military support, the Bell System is honored by the opportunity to do its share.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

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The TELEPHONE REVIEW

New York February 1918

Volume 9 Number 2

The TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor

Published monthly by the New York Telephone Company, U. N. BETHELL, President; WALTER BROWN, Secretary and Treasurer. Publication Office and Principal Place of Business, 15 Dey Street, New York.

VOL. IX. FEBRUARY, 1918 No. 2

Income Tax

Employees Receiving $1,000 a Year and Over Must Make Return by March 1, 1918

THE third article on income taxation is printed by us this month for the information and guidance of employees of this Company who received incomes of $3,000 or less during 1917, especially those who this year for the first time are required by law to make tax returns. The first of these articles, printed in our December issue, ended with these words:

"Ignorance of the law's requirements will not relieve the taxpayer of the consequences of violation or non-compliance."

Therefore, in order to be on the safe side, every employee, whether man or woman, who during the calendar year 1917 received an income of $1,000, or more, should read these three articles most carefully; first, to ascertain whether or not his income is taxable, and, secondly, if so, how to make his tax returns.

The Company is required by the law to report to the Government the name and address of each person in its employ to whom it has paid during the year for which the return is made (1917, in this instance) salaries, wages, et cetera, or other fixed or determinable gains, profits, and income of $800 or more.

Each such employee will be informed by the Company, of the exact amount which it has paid him and which it must report to the Government as having been so paid.

A reproduction (reduced) of the form to be filled out is enclosed with this copy of the magazine as an insert. It should be studied carefully and may be used in preparing the tax return, but the regular form actually to be used in making the return must be obtained from the internal revenue collector or his representative.

These articles are the most comprehensive and explicit that have been published on this subject, and there seems to be nothing further that the Company can do.

It should not be overlooked that each employee must make a similar return for the year 1918, and it is advisable to keep an accurate record throughout the year for this purpose.

This is one of the penalties of the world war in which we are engaged, and may not be escaped.

Major General George O. Squier

AS the head of the Signal Corps of the United States Army, Major General George O. Squier is, of course, the commanding officer of all the Bell Telephone men who have gone into this branch of the service. For this reason it is highly fitting and our great pleasure to present to our readers a picture of General Squier on our front cover, and a biographical sketch on a page following.

No one appreciates more than General Squier the absolute importance of the telephone as an adjunct to the army, or understands better than he the work of the Bell system.

We are using a picture of General Squier taken while he was Brigadier General and which, therefore, does not show his Major General's insignia.

All Local Commercial Offices Sell War Savings and Thrift Stamps

THE New York Telephone Company has become an authorized agent of the Treasury Department for the sale of Thrift Stamps and War Savings Stamps and these stamps will be sold at all the Company's local commercial offices.

Thrift Stamps

THRIFT STAMPS are stamps in denominations of 25c issued by the Government in order to aid those who desire to save in small amounts towards the purchase of War Saving Stamps. The price of Thrift Stamps does not change nor do they bear interest. Thrift Cards containing spaces for pasting sixteen stamps, or $4.00 worth, are furnished by the Government, and sixteen Thrift Stamps pasted on a Thrift Card may be used as the equivalent of $4.00 in the purchase of a War Savings Stamp at the current price.

War Savings Stamps

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS are issued by the Government for the purpose of promoting thrift and to secure finances for carrying on its unusual activities at this time. War Savings Stamps have a redemption value on January 1, 1923, of $5.00 and are a safe and profitable way to invest small amounts of money. The price of a War Savings Stamp during February, 1918, is $4.13 and the price increases one cent each month of the year 1918, making the price $4.23 in the month of December. The difference in the price of a War Savings Stamp—$4.13 in February and $4.23 in December—and its redemption value in January, 1923—$5.00—is 4% interest compounded quarterly on the price paid for the stamp in the respective month of 1918. War Savings Certificates containing spaces for twenty War Savings Stamps are furnished by the Government.

Thrift Clubs

IN one office the employees have formed a Thrift Club, each one agreeing to buy from two to four Thrift Stamps per week as a minimum. Each one also has a small box for the accumulation of small change, and the money dropped into these boxes is used for the purchase of additional Thrift Stamps.

Such a plan might be followed generally. It is surprising how little self-denials,—such as pennies for newspapers to be glanced at and thrown away during the day, unnecessary car fares, chewing gum, sodas, cigars, and other "luxuries," can be converted within a very short time into these Thrift Stamps. One employee is the Treasurer of the Club, and keeps a few stamps on hand all the time, which may be bought and pasted on the Thrift Cards.

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Honor to Private Cullington

WILLIAM T. CULLINGTON, of Brooklyn, a member of the Signal Corps in France, is reported by General Pershing as having been killed in an auto-truck accident.

Early in January a paragraph appeared in the New York papers, mentioning the fact that a motor-lorry in the American Division in France skidded off the road in Dijon and fell into a ravine, killing the driver and injuring two others. It is not known that Mr. Cullington drove a motor truck, or that it was in this accident that he lost his life, but he was located near Dijon, and from the fact that on January 11 General Pershing reported Mr. Cullington as killed in an auto-truck accident, it seems probable that the accident above mentioned is the one referred to.

Mr. Cullington was born April 26, 1890, in New Rochelle, New York. He was engaged as nightman in the Metropolitan Division, July 31, 1906, and at the time of joining the Signal Corps was second deskman at the Williamsburg-Stagg central office in Brooklyn.

He leaves no dependent, his nearest relatives being a father and three sisters.

In a letter to his superior, Mr. M. Greene, wire chief's supervisor, dated November 11, 1917, written from France, Mr. Cullington wrote:

This has been "some experience" so far. . . . I have done quite a variety of different things since being in France: digging pole and anchor holes, setting poles, stringing wires, and trimming trees; also I was one of four that were selected to install a magneto forty line switchboard and telephone system in a base hospital, and I did some installing of telephones. So you see I am getting a large experience in outside construction and installation which will enable me to be a better telephone man in the future.

We work hard and quite long hours, Sundays and no half day Saturday. . . . also, being a private and having to be under military discipline, it is teaching me to restrain myself and keep my temper,—things that will be of considerable value to me when I return to the job. . . .

I can't say I like the army 100 per cent., because it would not be the truth, but I can say I am doing my best for my country, and also I am getting a lot out of the service; and if I am fortunate enough to go through the war unscathed and having good health, I will have had a course of instruction that does not fall to the share of every one.

"I am doing my best for my country,"—and he has gained another star,—one of imperishable glory, for in doing his best he died for his country—the first New York Telephone Company employee who has made the supreme sacrifice.

A Letter from Major Shearer

THE following letter from Major Shearer to Mr. Thurber, dated, France, January 1, is the first word that has been received of the arrival "over there" of the Christmas boxes.

It is a hearty and appreciative acknowledgment of what the employees "back at home on the old job" contributed to make glad the hearts of our boys on the job which they are doing in La Belle France to defeat the Kaiser.

It is also an acknowledgment of the receipt of additional shipments of tobacco which are being made regularly each month to our boys in the Signal Corps in France, the sixth shipment having just been forwarded as his letter was received.

France, January 1, 1918.

Dear Mr. Thurber:

Since my last letter to you the clouds that were obscuring the tobacco sun in our heavens have to a large extent drifted away under the horizon. There is a gentle haze of smoke, but it is the smoke from tobacco, spelled with a capital T, which stands for Telephone and Thurber. We have ample evidence that that is a pretty fine combination to have back of us, and the irregular supply conditions over here have just served to emphasize this. That first shipment that was "lost" over here was strangely "found" and forwarded to us almost intact. It is quite a story, which I am saving to relate around the fireside after the war.

Our Christmas this year fell on New Year's. For weeks we have been hearing of the large quantity of mail that was about to arrive from the base ports, and on the last day of the year sure enough in came seventy bags of Christmas mail. There is every reason to suspect that there is plenty more still on the way and that we will be celebrating for days to come, as only a part of the Telephone boxes were in this lot.

Those Telephone boxes are certainly the best ever. An excellent selection of articles and so evidently packed with a good wish, they are one more proof that the word "soul-less" is a libellous fiction if any wild-talking fanatic ever included the New York Telephone Company in with the black sheep corporations. It has been truly inspiring to receive these tangible proofs of the interest and good wishes that have followed us across the waters.

We are now right in the midst of the hard pull of our work, as the days are short and working conditions are most discouraging. Snow and ice on the roads, and this in a country where "it never freezes," and frost frequently half an inch thick on the wires. Still things are moving along and there is now in France something that there never has been before, namely, a telephone line that really talks up so that one need not go into a padded chamber in order to hear what is being said at the other end. And that is something to show for our labors although not so much as we hope to have before the party is over.

To-day is New Year's day and theoretically a holiday, but in this business the powers that be are very apt to forget such a thing, and the result is that we have to keep the shop open Sundays and holidays. The men, however, are enjoying a well-earned rest, and opening their Christmas packages. Personally, I am just recovering from an excellent dinner.

I speak for all the men in thanking you and through you all of our good friends who have done so much toward Americanizing these holidays that have overtaken us over here in France. We are all glad to be here doing our little bit; particularly because we have been blessed with friends back in the United States who are doing more than their little bit. Won't you tell them all for me that we thank them individually and collectively for the fine bit of Christmas Cheer that we have received from them?

Sincerely,
H. H. SHEARER.

The New Multiple Disc Joint

Used in the Evergreen Central Office Vault

THE article on Cable Work in the New Evergreen Central Office Vault in our December issue described a new Multiple Disc Joint. The second paragraph on page 368, beginning with "This inner disc," contained typographical errors which made obscure the description of the need and use of the inner disc in this joint. This inner disc is an innovation in multiple joint work, and the success of the joint described was due largely to the introduction of this novel feature. The paragraph should read as follows:

This inner disc fits in between the various I. L. C. cables at the edge of the sleeve "beat-in" and acts as a plug to prevent metal from running into the sleeve while the joint is being wiped, and also helps to keep the form cables in alignment.

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How Many Dollars' Worth Will You Shorten the War?

IF you had twenty-five cents in your pocket-book, and were hungry and many miles from home, would you think of spending the whole of the twenty-five cents on food, letting the carfare take care of itself? Few of us would. Yet that is exactly what many of us do with our incomes—spend first, and do without things that we really should have afterwards.

In fact, many of us do not even know what our income per family is. All we realize is that when we reach home after our day's work, we like to have a nice hot meal waiting for us, a warm house, and cheerful surroundings. Do we ever stop to think of the wheels that must be set in motion in order to give us these comforts, or of whether we enjoy them at the sacrifice of too much of our income, or of too much wear and tear on the nerves of the folks at home? Perhaps a little application of business methods in the housekeeping would be very much appreciated by the afore-mentioned folks, and would greatly simplify their problems.

Why Trust to Luck?

IN other words, why not begin the New Year with a budget? It will be interesting to find out whether you are sacrificing some of your rightful pleasures to your imaginary needs, or vice versa. Take the case of the twenty-five cents. If you knew that you had to spend fifteen cents of it for carfare, and yet were very hungry, you would be apt to buy one plain, substantial thing (probably in a baker shop) rather than two less substantial dishes. And, your ten-cent meal would probably satisfy your hunger just as well as the twenty-five cent one! In addition to your meal you would have your ride home, whereas, if you had not planned the disposal of the money, you would find yourself stranded.

Yet how many of us are stranded every week, month, or year, as the case may be, merely because of the lack of a little foresight! We shut our eyes and trust blindly to luck, and though luck so often fails us, we proceed just as cheerfully on our way as ever, having learned nothing from our experience. We do with a large sum of money what we should not dream of doing with twenty-five cents! Yet all that we need do in order to insure comfort and peace of mind to ourselves is to make up a budget of our expenses and use it as a guide in our expenditures. Instead of always being a little ahead, we are just running even, or are falling behind.

Make a Budget

MAKING a budget is not a very difficult process, and is a most interesting one. All one has to do is to take the family income and apportion it among the following items: food, shelter, clothing, operation (including service, gas, electricity, etc.), advancement (including church, benevolences, health, insurance, and savings), and incidentals. Of course, if you have some actual figures upon which to base the amounts to be spent on each group, your budget will be a more practical one at first, but it is possible to make a tentative budget, which can be altered as experience dictates.

Usually, when people find that the high cost of living is getting to be too much for them, their first thought is to retrieve by cutting out their pleasures or advancement. Mrs. Smith will stop going to the movies; Mrs. Jones will give up entertaining, and the Greens decide to wear all their old clothes. Some of these economies are far from wise. They do not get at the root of the evil, and cause a feeling of dissatisfaction and discontent, because one seems to be marking time instead of marching forward. Just making ends meet is skating on very thin ice—a thing that may be exciting for a while, but which is rather nerve-racking if continued for any length of time. We must live for the future, as well as for the present, and in order to insure a comfortable future it is absolutely necessary to plan our expenditures in such a way that we shall have a surplus on hand, which will be earning money for us against the time when we shall be most in need of it.

The Chance of a Lifetime

ARE you going to be improvident in these times when one can least afford to fly in the face of Providence, or are you going to be one of those who will help win the war and restore conditions to normal after the great struggle is over? It lies entirely with you, for it lies in your power to finance the war and to provide for the future in one stroke. It sounds like good business, does it not? An opportunity which has never in the history of the nation been offered to the people as a whole is within your grasp now. It is an opportunity that should furnish you the greatest incentive to save—an opportunity that points the way toward the safest kind of investment of your savings, and at the same time places in your power a chance to perform a patriotic duty—an opportunity that deprives you of nothing, and gives you everything—that comes but once in a lifetime. Are you going to let it pass you by?

Fight for the Cause

IN years to come are you going to be one of the few who will think with a feeling of shame, "I heard the call, but I answered not; I was shown the way, but I shut my eyes, because I was too weak and selfish to travel it, although it meant only adapting myself to a simpler mode of living, and doing a thing that would in the end be of greater benefit to me than to anyone else"? If you doubt your ability to do more than you are doing, look around you, and see what others are doing. See how the thought of self is secondary to that of Liberty! Be an American in the truest sense of the word, and fight with everything in you for the cause of Liberty. If you cannot fight with bullets, fight with money. It has been said that there are three things that are all important in war—money, money, and then some more money. Money is not everything, but there are few of us who do not know its might. If money will accomplish such wonders, if it will lay this ghost of slavery and secure forever the Liberty which all true Americans have always held as their ideal, are we going to hold back and hesitate? No! Rather let us err on the other side, if possible, and mortgage our futures temporarily, if necessary, in order to insure them permanently.

Therefore, Look Ahead

AFTER all, even though we are occupied with war activities, though we are continually having all sorts of extraordinary demands upon our pocketbooks,—demands such as for Red Cross contributions, for Y. M. C. A. and Knights of Columbus needs, for Armenian Relief, and Belgian Babies,—we must look toward the future. When the war is won, the broken threads of our lives must be taken up once more, and a normal existence must obliterate the traces of conflict. If, by being economical in the truest sense of the word, by saving, and last but not least, by investing our savings in securities backed by the Government, we can accomplish this, why hesitate? Thrift Stamps, War Savings Stamps, Liberty Bonds, all offer us this wonderful opportunity of killing two birds with one stone. They say we Americans have good business heads. Let us prove it.

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Seeing France With Some of Our Boys

IN his account of France, John N. MacKnight gives us glimpses of life in a small French town near the front, where the soldiers slept in the houses and ate out-doors. It was very cold, but, he says, "We manage to keep warm after a fashion."

Evidently the picturesque cottages so lauded in song and story are better fitted for illustrating books and decorating walls than for living purposes. "Our town," he tells us, "is a very quaint old place. Cattle, horses, sheep, and poultry on one side of the house, peasants on the other, and the attics and hay mows filled with soldiers." Quite a collection for a little farmhouse, is it not?

Some of our boys in France. Do you recognize any of them?

Sanitary conditions in Europe are not all that they should be. Our men must have received a great shock when they discovered the way in which the townspeople lived. People are already speculating on the various benefits that these French will derive from contact with our boys. Mr. MacKnight's comment, "The people are very poor and ignorant, and we have our hands full cleaning up the streets," shows that, at least, our boys will leave things better than they found them.

In the village and towns, the living is very simple. The old story of "the simple life" is a reality now. "There are absolutely no luxuries in these villages, just bare necessities. Cake is unknown—but the bread is fine (whole wheat)." Many of the men have commented on the fine quality of the bread. However, there is one need that seems to be almost universally felt by the American soldier, and that is the need for American smokes. To speak of it so often makes it appear, perhaps, that our men are confirmed smokers, but we must remember that they write very often after having been for weeks without anything but French tobacco, which is extremely unpopular. "Cigarettes," our friend writes, "are very scarce. I haven't had an American smoke in an age. All we can buy is weeds (it says so on the box). Please send some Camels and Lucky Strikes as they are the best when one is living out of doors."

French Women a Revelation

ONE thing that seems to have aroused the admiration of our boys in France is the fact that the French women have taken hold so wonderfully, and are doing even the heavy work of the men who are fighting at the front in a remarkably efficient manner. Even the old women, they say, perform tasks that would naturally fall to the lot of the young American man in this country. It is no uncommon sight to see old women carrying heavy bundles of wood to stave off the dreadful fear of the cold that grips the natives. They put up with everything else cheerfully, but the reaction that sets in with numbing cold is dreaded far more than hunger.

In the towns, industries are going forward in much the same way as before the war, especially those that are considered necessary. Luxuries for a time have given way to the simpler demands of life. It is said that the French women have risen wonderfully to the occasion and have proved that underlying the effervescence, gaiety and light-heartedness for which they are famous, is a unity of purpose, and an ability to face hardship without flinching, that are the admiration of the whole world.

Somewhere in France.

Dear ——:

I am in a French farming village very small in population. There are very few young people in this town, as the war has taken all the young men away. You can see nothing but old men. I have seen only a few young girls. The girls in America needn't worry about their sweethearts over here, because they can't fall in love with any French girls,—there are none. I always thought, myself, that the French were beautiful, but I have not seen one yet that was good-looking. None of them compare with the girls in America for looks, but one thing that I have noticed is that they all have ruddy, rosy cheeks, and they aren't artificial either. They are the picture of health.

All you can see is old people. The old people over here are not like the old people in America, for they do as much work as the young man does in America. They have to do it, because the younger men have all gone to the war. They work from early morning till late at night.

The buildings and houses here in the town in which I am stationed were built very early in the eighteenth century. The houses are very old. The pigs, horses, cows, sheep, and chickens are all covered by a census. The war has hit the French people hard, because they are only allowed so much bread for each person. When they go to get their bread, they take a book with them and the quantity obtained is marked in the book every time they get it, as they are allowed only so much. Eggs are ninety cents a dozen, so you people in America can see how the French people are living.

They all wear wooden shoes. Their cooking is all done over an open fireplace. The climate here is very wet—nothing but rain. I have only seen the sun about twice since I have been over here. I wish I could tell you more about France, but I can't.

We had a turkey dinner for Thanksgiving, and the eats on an average are good.

PRIVATE ANDREW G. ROWAN,
A. E. F.

Somewhere in France, and No Place to Go

Dear Dad:

Somewhere in France, and no place to go, and, believe me, this sure is some place. I received your letter this morning and was mighty glad to hear from you. We sure had some eats at Thanksgiving, but it had nothing on mother's dinner. We do not hear anything about the war, but from what we see, I sure think the Frenchmen like to fight. The men are nearly all at the front, and the women do their work for them. You ought to see them work!

I haven't had a decent drink of water since I left God's country, but I can get all the champagne I want,—but nothing doing!

They do not dance in this country, and I am just dying for a good old United States dance. You think Nyack is dead, but it has nothing on this place, and I wish I was back in the dear old place with you. Please hurry up and send the cigarettes, as I am almost dead for the smell of a good old Helmar. Now, do not worry about me as I am fine and have good living. I would be perfectly satisfied if you were all out here with me, but, as it is, I am getting along splendidly and am having a right royal time.

Your loving son,
EDWARD TOWT.

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An extract from another letter reads:

We won't know how to do anything but work and soldier when we get through over here; but never mind, we are going to trim those Germans in a hurry, and then for "Home, Sweet Home."

I think it will be very hard for any one to find me, as we are alone in this town and we move along as we work, but it may be my luck to run into some of the boys when I go through the towns on my machine. I certainly would like to meet some of those fellows "over here," but I think it will be one chance in a hundred.

In this town there are only about two dozen houses, and these are all built of stone. There are no frame houses, as stone is so plentiful. The walls are wonderful. When it rains the village streets are very dirty, as all the cattle go through the streets which, by the way, haven't been cleaned since the war started.

He Must Be a New Englander!

Dear Mother:

When I know you are not worrying about me, it makes me feel that I am glad to be here, for it is for a good cause. As for worrying, why there is nothing to worry about, for there is nothing but the best here. We have good eating and plenty of it. That is one of the important things. The sleeping was nothing extra for a while, but we made beds, and, believe me, they are almost like home.

I have made the acquaintance of a French family, and they treat me fine. I am going to their house for supper, and have pie every time I go to see them. The pie is quite different from ours, but it tastes good, and I learn most of the language there.

There is one thing about the French people. When you do not understand what they say, they get mad.

The weather is really cold now, and the boys are having a job trying to keep warm. We had thick socks issued to us, and large hip boots.

Your loving son,

HENRY KEATING.

A Man With His Eyes Open

FOR the man with a "nose for news" there is a great opportunity in France. The following letters show that their writer is missing very little of what is going on around him. He has a happy gift of observation, and is evidently storing away for further use all sorts of interesting things that will enrich his reminiscences of his trip to Europe. He is, as it were, being educated abroad, in the truest sense of the word,—or rather, he is educating himself abroad.

According to his report, the people are "Hooverizing" to the limit. We could tell him that we are in the same class, and exhibit the cards that we have to produce in some stores in order to get our portion of sugar, white or brown! We ought to be proud of those cards, for they mean that our men are getting the wherewithal with which to beat the Kaiser.

American Expeditionary Force,
Somewhere in France.

Dear Mother:

The town we are at is very small. It consists of a general store, about four cafés, a Catholic church and town hall. The people are typical French peasants. They wear wooden shoes, and when they come along the road you think a horse is approaching.

To-day, Sunday, I attended 10 o'clock mass. The service was a little different from what it is at home. It is a large church, considering the size of the town, and has massive stone pillars. There is a choir of about ten girls. During the service, they passed around small cuts of bread, which we all ate.

In your letter you asked me to tell you about France. It is hard to describe, for I cannot mention any town, and, as for the war, I hear little. The town we left was raided by a Zeppelin the other night, I hear, but no damage of any account was done.

We are located in barns and sleep on home-made beds with bed sacks filled with straw. We try to make ourselves as comfortable as we can, so do not worry about me, as I shall always take care of myself. The mess is pretty good, as we are now having what is called barrack rations and canned Willie is no longer with us.

The only thing we miss is the American cigarette, so send some. We have not received any of the tobacco that the *New York Sun* donated to the "Sammies." It must be lost through the usual military channels.

An old man with a drum on his back happened to pass through this town. He is what we might call a "herald." He reads the crop productions and bits of news to the inhabitants. Each farmer has to donate a certain amount of potatoes to the government.

Your loving son,

ARTHUR RILEY.

Dear Mother:

Nothing new has occurred much since my last letter. We are having a rainy spell over here for these past three or four weeks, with a little colder weather, but do not worry about my catching cold, as we are provided with enough clothes, shoes, et cetera. We keep on the go over here, for we are working on the eighty-six-mile stretch. We go to work in Packard autos.

Last week we were on a small stretch of about five miles, about twenty-five miles distant, or one and one-half hours' ride each way, going at a stiff pace. The scenery was beautiful. In the distance we could see the snow-covered mountains. . . .

Our tree-trimming gang has gathered a lot of mistletoe from the trees and given it to the Base Hospital.

I was on a detail to get fire-wood. We get it by the load from a canal siding just outside of the city we just left. It is unloaded by German prisoners from the barges. On the way back we saw what I think was the city surveyor. He was the center of attraction. At the time there was a crowd following him. He had two assistants with tape-measures. He wore "specs" on the end of his nose, and was recording the square inches. I know now why there are such crooked streets and alleys in France! Now that I have seen what I have so longed to, let me die in peace.

We often see hunters along the road. On one occasion we passed a wood where some fellows saw wild boar. On the day following we were digging a hole in a place nearby and we heard a lot of shooting. We thought it must have been pretty big game. To our surprise a hunter emerged with a thing that looked like a squirrel that I could catch with my hat. It would eat off your hand. . . .

Your loving son,

ARTHUR RILEY.

Official British photograph taken on the Western Front in France. Testing telephone lines near the front line. The little poles used are just high enough to make an air line

Recreation Somewhere in France

Dear Sir:

Received your letter this morning and I cannot express in words how I appreciate what the Telephone Company is doing for myself and the boys.

I often wonder what the bunch at home (work) are doing and I will be very happy when I return home with them. I suppose the bunch also wonders what we are doing, so I will give you somewhat of an idea.

Most of us are doing our regular work, so I won't have to explain that to you. We have great fun being taught French, and a number of the boys are learning fast.

We have a house with four rooms—one

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large one and three small ones. The large one has a piano in it and is used for dancing. We have had two dances so far. One of the small ones is used for the fellows to hang out in. In this room is a phonograph. The second small room is used as a writing room, and the other one is used for a canteen. Every once in a while the Y. M. C. A. people send somebody up to give us a lecture.

I am at present at the hospital with my left hand out of order, but hope to be back with the boys by Xmas. At the hospital we are getting the best care in the world. Those of us who are able to walk around are given permission to go down to the "Y. M.," and every night something is doing—a lecture, movies, singing, et cetera. Mrs. Belmont gave us a talk the other night. . . .

Thanking you and all the Telephone Company again, I am

Yours respectfully,

CORNELIUS A. SULLIVAN, JR.

America "On the Job"

HERE is a man who has no doubt concerning the rôle that America is destined to play in this war. He is full of admiration for the work of preparation that has already gone forward. In fact, the whole letter speaks plainly of the confidence and spirit that are characteristic of all our men.

France, December, 1917.

My dear ——·:

I received a box full of things which are needed, very much so, and which have already been put to good use. Now you tell me there are other packages on the way. I have gone over the list you enclosed and can assure you someone used rare judgment in the selection of the articles. If I had had to make it out myself I could not have done better. I want you, please, to thank everyone who had anything to do with it, for me. In case this letter gets the same treatment that some others apparently have been given, "I thank you folks from the bottom of my heart. If the rest of the boys are as fortunate as I am in having such good friends back home to encourage them along, it won't take a great while to end this war. God bless you all." I'll be on the lookout for the other packages and will let you know when they are received.

Things in the States surely must be humming with activity. Good old America is destined to play the leading rôle in this war and the way she is preparing is a delight to us natives.

The Second Liberty Loan certainly proves where America stands, or I should say where the Americans stand. Ridgewood, as ever, did herself proud and I congratulate you fellows who were in charge and the people who responded so heartily. Most of our boys took one or more bonds, paying for them on the installment plan. They had a real reason, too, for the advertisements were to the effect that the war would be shortened by the buying of the bonds. I decided to shorten the war a hundred dollars' worth, myself.

I had my brother subscribe to the *Herald* for me so that I could keep tabs on local doings. I received a whole flock of them at once and then they subsided. But elderly though they may be, it's all news to me and you can tell Editor Smith I still claim he turns out the best suburban weekly in the State; in fact, I haven't seen any publication in France to compare with it.

I may have deserved that little scolding you gave me about my reticence concerning affairs over here. But the censorship regulations are very strict and I really can't say much about what is going on. I am not so sure but what you know more about the war than I, for I have to depend on month-old New York papers for any information. This thing is something like a three-ring circus—you can't see it all and must depend on the billboards for the greater part of it. Our boys are doing a good job and I think are as contented as such a crowd so far from home could be expected to be. Since our trip over, about which you know, because the news was sent back by a sailor, things have been pretty quiet for us. We are plugging along, doing what is desired, cheerfully, and I hope it will help put the enemy to rout. If it does, I will consider any sacrifices I make as well worth while.

Before I close, I have another matter I want to write you about. I wish you would in some way convey to the telephone officials my sincere thanks for their treatment of me and the other boys over here. It is comforting and reassuring to know that our salaries are being paid to our families during our absence and I feel sure that the fellows all appreciate it. Personally I cannot speak of the Company too highly. The Company's consideration of its employees on leave in this connection is but another evidence of its desire to treat the employees as co-partners rather than as mere workers. This policy is one which should and I think will pay big returns in loyalty and service.

I must also say a word about Thanksgiving Day. They have the last Thursday in November over here, but they do not put it to any special use, principally because they have so little to be thankful for. Nevertheless the occasion was fittingly observed by the American troops. Between 2 P. M. and 3 P. M. that day I think I ate more than I ever did before at one sitting. Uncle Sam provided everything to tickle and delight the palate and aggravate the stomach. I didn't have the nerve to show up until the third meal thereafter and it was several days before I got into my stride again.

With best wishes for a happy, healthful and prosperous New Year to you and yours, I remain

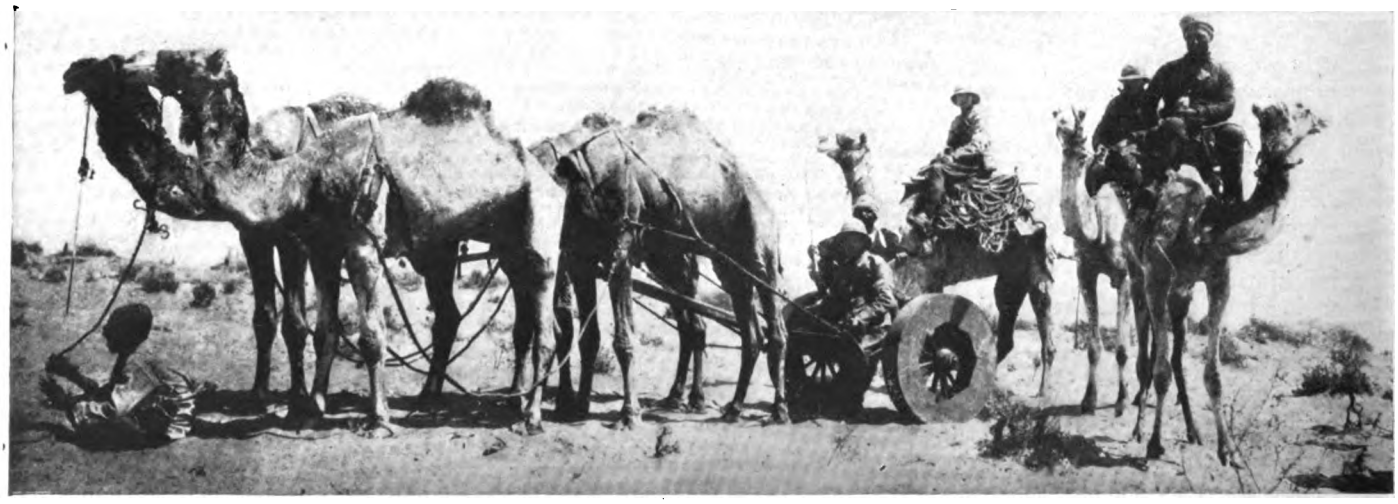
Your friend,

—RUSSELL DUSENBERRY.

To the U. S. Signal Corps

You could get along without the infan-tree,
If such a thing should really have to be;
You could let up on "typewritin',"
Quit most other styles o' fightin',
And keep a battle goin' 'cross the sea;
But I'll make an affidavy at my dear old mother's knee
There wouldn't be no battles in the trenches 'crost the sea;
Oh there wouldn't be no chanst for them to carry on the war,
Without the kind assistance o' the U. S. Signal Corps.

Charley Gordon, with a ukulele, sang this at Camp Upton recently. . . . The point may be adduced in vers libre: the signal corps is, after all, the nerve system of modern warfare. Take from the artilleryman the news of what his shells and shrapnel are accomplishing out beyond in the unseen and his big guns are as good as silenced. Take from the infantryman means of quickly receiving and passing along orders—and he's a cooked goose.—*N. Y. Tribune.*



The ancient swift messengers of the desert hauling a chariot used to lay telephone wires. The Israelites took forty years to go from Egypt to Palestine; the modern railroad enabled the British to cover the distance in eighteen days and recapture the Holy City; the telephone now unites the countries of mystery and of sacred story instantly

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In the Service "Over Here"

IT is very interesting to trace the paths of our boys into the various branches of the service that they have elected to follow. Some of them—in fact most of them—have gone into electrical work, feeling that their experience lay in that direction. Many are doing important electrical work, both in the army and navy. However, many have felt the call of the branches that captivate the imagination by their very uncertainty and danger. The aeroplane, especially, has called them. Here are a few notes from some of those who are in training to attack the Kaiser from the air:

Western Division bunch at Camp Sherman, with P. O. Jacobs in center. The boys say: "We sure did enjoy seeing Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Chesterman and Mr. Cooper, and the presents they brought."
November 18, 1917

Signal Corps Aviation School,
Ellington Field, Houston,
Texas.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am down here, I trust not for long, because I want to get over and in it, instructing cadets in the rather perilous art of going up in the air with a calm head, and coming down safely. I am very much interested in the work and it holds one's interest much as a snake does a bird.

The section of the country is very beautiful. The air is warm and balmy. Palms, cactus, and the big blue Gulf of Mexico stretch as far as the eye can see, and all this, combined with the wonderful sun of Texas, makes a delightful picture from the clouds. The people are very hospitable and at times amusing. This is their first experience with aeroplanes and some of their comments are quite droll. One chap landed upside down, unhurt, and a long, lanky son of Texas asked him if that was the way he always "Set 'em down."

Now for a brief word picture of an aviation school "somewhere in the United States." Imagine a row of hangars, each capable of holding twelve planes, stretched out in a straight line for a distance of two miles. In front of these hangars is a wide, flat plateau on which planes are rising and landing continually. Others in the air are spiralling, diving, and going through all forms of queer acrobatics. One would think the pilots mad, but it is all part of the game and this training will mean much later on.

Back of the hangars is a long, straight, oyster-shell road that looks like a broad white ribbon from the air. Trucks are constantly travelling over this white highway, laden with gasoline, extra parts, and mechanics. Some are seen leaving camp to search the country for machines that have been forced to land. Now and then one of the ambulances is seen to be slowly moving towards the hospital. We all sigh and hope that the poor chap isn't badly hurt, but usually a spill means fatal injuries, or else paralysis, which to my mind is worse than death.

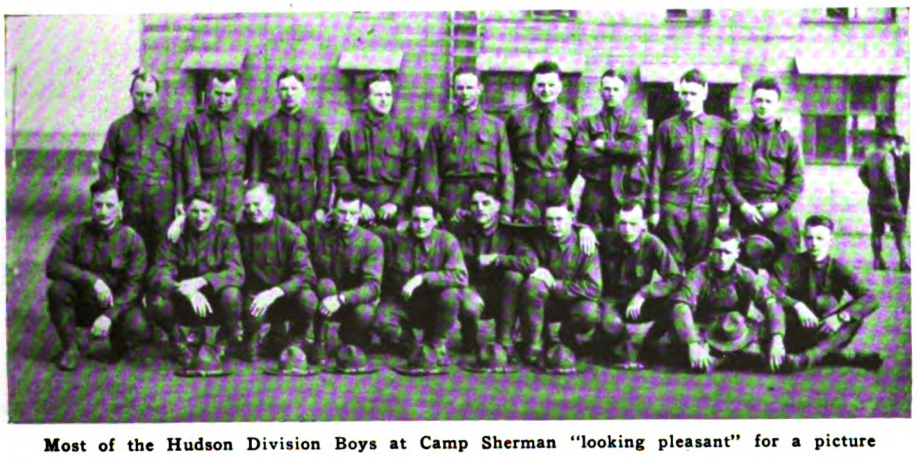
Back of this broad highway of never-ending traffic are the men's quarters, the shops, storehouses, officers' quarters, and the various other buildings. Everything is painted a brilliant white and the roofs are all vermillion, very striking in appearance. The whole camp looks as neat and prim as an old Colonial flower garden.

Training starts with the sun and lasts until it becomes too dark to fly with safety. When the cadets are not flying they are busily engaged in studying aerial photography, gunnery and the various other things that a fighting pilot must know to be successful in his work. To show how small the world is, the official photographer at Chamite Field in Illinois was formerly a plant man in the Bell of Chicago. I learned of it the day I was leaving.

Well, must stop this now. I have bored you long enough and I fear that your patience is about exhausted. If you ever have a few spare moments I would welcome a letter crammed to the brim with gossip and the doings of all my friends back East.

Sincerely,

LIEUT. EDWARD W. KILLGORE,
Aviation Section, Signal Corps.



Most of the Hudson Division Boys at Camp Sherman "looking pleasant" for a picture

At present I am located at the Government Flying School at Gerstner Field, Lake Charles, Louisiana. I have been here just two weeks to-day, and I like the place first rate. This country is an ideal one for flying, as it is perfectly flat for miles around, about as far south as the Gulf, which is, roughly speaking, about forty miles from here. The advantage of flat ground over hilly ground is that no cross currents are encountered in the air. This condition is very desirable, especially in the case of beginners. When flying where the air is very bumpy (due to these conflicting air currents), one has to be constantly alert so that the airplane is not thrown into a side slip. A side slip is extremely dangerous if very close to the ground, as the machine falls rapidly when in this position.

I have been flying every day since the third day I came here. The sensation of flying is not as thrilling as I had imagined it would be, but, nevertheless, one really is living when racing through the air in an aeroplane.

CADET ERIK A. ERIKSON,
U. S. Flying School, Gerstner Field,
H. D. C., Lake Charles, Louisiana.

139th Aero Squad, Camp Hicks.

Dear Sir:

While I am writing this I will tell you a bit about camp. As you know, I am in the Aviation Section Signal Corps. I am listed as an air mechanic and I have the Telephone Company to thank for being able to get in this section. While with the Telephone Company I was employed as a splicer's helper and the knowledge I gained of splicing helped me to get in this branch.

We have now finished our training on the American aeroplanes and expect to leave shortly for New York from which we will be shipped to England. We will be trained on the speed type plane that is used extensively on the front. After being there about two months we will go to France to do our bit.

I will close now, as it is time for chow. Once again I wish to thank you all for this pleasant gift and wish you all a happy and pleasant New Year.

PRIVATE JOSEPH DONAHUE,
Camp Hicks, Texas.

This is an ideal spot for an aviation field, as we get no taste of the real cold weather such as I know you folks are having in New York now, and so there is nothing to hinder us from our work each day. It is a very interesting branch

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Corporal McKinley acting as a guide through the trenches at Camp Sherman, Ohio. The dummies in the background are used for bayonet practice

of service and I have no regrets for my enlisting. After we had been here two weeks I was made master electrician and I now have charge of all electrical work, including the telephone end of it too. It is very nice work and I have been kept very busy, especially with the two switchboards here, which are the new type Western Electric Boards, and I have had very little time to myself.

BAUMAN BRENNAN,
120 Aero Squadron,
Ellington Field, Houston, Texas.

Ship Ahoy!

OTHERS are engaged in preparing to do their bit on the high seas. They must find life on ship-board very different indeed from that on land. They, too, have interesting experiences:

I guess I can tell you but few things about the life aboard this ship, as you know it is pretty hard to write when you know your letter has to be censored. As we get very few papers aboard, we do not know much of what is going on outside.

When we are at sea there is not much time for pleasure, as we have to steam without lights, or, as we call it, darken ship, and we have to keep a constant lookout, which takes up most of our time. Well, the last time we were at sea, we hit a pretty good storm, which gave us a little excitement, but the boys seemed to like it, as very few got sick.

We spent a good Christmas aboard ship, as we had a big dinner and some talent from a nearby town, who entertained us. With that and the dancing, we had a good holiday.

WILLIAM A. JOHNSON.

Dear Friend:

It has been my great pleasure to come aboard this vessel and take charge of the plant, which in many ways resembles the one I left behind when I enlisted. Thanks to the splendid training of the Telephone Company, I have been able to cope with the situation, and things are running along smoothly. There is one thing, however, I want to impress upon you, and that is this: A PBX Wire Chief generally has eleven storage batteries located in a nice quiet little corner. The generator is in another corner, and they generally *stay* there. Now in the navy, we have *sixty* storage cells and a few generators, steam-driven; but when Neptune gets angry, you have to be a tight-rope walker to get at the batteries or generators. Some of these 180-degree angle rolls of the vessel do not in any way facilitate specific gravity readings, and you have to be a juggler to water cells on such occasions, and a magician to keep out the salt water. However, it's all in the game of war, and a great life if you don't weaken. However, me for the good old "Tel" when the Kaiser is arrested for speeding.

FRANK T. MYER,
On Board U. S. S. Despatch, at Sea.

A Submarine Collision

Well, the life on a submarine is a great one. The principal electrical troubles that we have are due to the storage batteries. We dive very often, and I am used to it. Once in my life I thought I'd never see daylight again, when we hit another submarine under the surface of the water. It certainly made my heart almost jump out, but I soon got it back in place again.

GUSTAV BEINERT,
a Submarine Man, U. S. S. G-3.

Side-lights on Camp Life

STILL others have gone into specialized branches of the service, and in their letters offer interesting sidelights on their activities. One of them makes an interesting comparison with life in camp at the present time as compared with what he experienced at the border. His former samples of military life were, in his opinion, "soldiering de luxe," in comparison to the training that he is receiving now.

Co. "B," 104 M. G. Bn.,
Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

Since that distant day when we marched away for the uncertain Southwest, time has swiftly flown. Those nine long months on the fly-ridden, dusty, sun-baked shores of the Rio Grande, whose silveriness we leave to ballad and song, are now a nightmare; the few days at home a pleasant dream. As to our months on the Aqueduct, and the few weeks in Bay Ridge we say little; they were soldiering de luxe Yet we well knew that ere long our lot would quickly change. It did.

The impressions which came to us upon first arriving in this land o' cotton have been more or less broken up by the prosaic nature of our work. Now it is simply a question of work, ever and anon, work.

When we are not on the drill field we are in the class room. An officer must learn and at the same time impart. We are lectured on every subject a soldier must know—the feet, gas, sanitation, tactics, engineering, ballistics, hippology, "muleology," and so forth. It is a unique experience. I referred to a broken ideal of the Rio Grande. Our views, too, of the South, and it balminess have also received an "orfull" jolt.

This morning, in the dark, drear hours when the average "cit" is safe upon his ostermoor, I did poke my toughened nose above the blankets. Cold—it was as cold as the Arctic circle; ice filled our water pails; one's breath hung where it hit the air; I hied myself to reveille. The men, they, too, stood like pieces of jelly, shivering and a-chattering in their reluctant shoes. The mercury said 14 degrees. It is now 6 P. M. and growing colder by the hour. If that is "balmy," may I spend the remainder of my life on the Chilcoot Pass. THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, I am glad to say, comes to me most regularly. I appreciate it greatly. Thus far, my military life, though prolonged, has been of a most monotonous, routine variety. When that hoped for time may come when we are called upon to enter into the Big Arena I shall hope to see and do enough to offer you a story of interest. May it come soon!

In closing, I extend once more my heartfelt appreciation to my compatriots and friends and with personal regards to you and to all, I am, sincerely,

GEORGE C. DONNELLY, 2nd Lieut.

I have made a rigging board for our company, the 302nd Engineers, Company E. There are three of us working on a relief map—a model of trenches, houses, bridge work, a telephone line, and a river. These trenches are up-to-date. The houses and bridges, a village, and several other things are modeled, all of which have made the work very interesting to the officers and men.

JOSEPH F. LEHMANN,
302nd Engineers, Company E.,
Camp Upton, Long Island.

On a hike, December 17, with the mercury eleven below zero

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Christmas Boxes "Mustered Into Service"

RECIPIENTS of the Christmas Boxes are still writing in their notes of thanks for what they agree is the best gift ever made to a soldier. Like those whose acknowledgments we printed in the January issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, they seem to think that some mysterious agency must have had a finger in the pie when the contents of the box were made up. Some were delighted most with the knife, which they looked forward to using on the Kaiser in particular, and all the exponents of *Kultur* in general, while others were loud in their praise of the smokes and the little pipe.

A great many of the letters of acknowledgment contained bits of news about the activities of our boys in camp and somewhere on the Atlantic. Extracts from them will be found in another story.

Those who did their share in sending the gift boxes will find in these letters (which, by the way, are representative of scores of others that have come to THE TELEPHONE REVIEW) a revelation of what it means to the soldier to be remembered by his friends and co-workers.

They speak so well for themselves that it is unnecessary for us to do more than offer some of them for your perusal.

A Company of Specialists

When I received the box, I immediately set to work to see "what it was made of," as the kid said when his dad caught him taking a good watch apart, but I got only the wooden cover off when I noticed the little paster on the corner of the package, bearing the inscription, "Please do not open until Christmas Day." So, like the good soldier that I am, having never been in the guard house, I put back the wooden cover and put the whole shooting match in my box until the fatal Christmas Day when it should be opened.

I received the REVIEW on last Friday, and it has been demolished by myself and all the boys in the squad who enjoyed it as much as I did.

We have some pretty good times in this Company, which is made up of all sorts of men. It is what is called a "Company of Specialists." In it we have telephone men and electricians, or the Signal Platoon, lumber-jacks, miners, and civil engineers, or the Pioneer Platoon; ex-regulars and militia men from all branches of the artillery, or the One-Pound Cannoneers, and some specially trained men for grenade throwing, Mounted Orderlies, and the original Headquarters Company.

Give all the boys in Madison and Gramercy my regards and ask some of them, through the REVIEW, if they will drop me a line once in a while, especially some of those that I worked with, such as Jack Flynn, Lupson, Jack Keap, and a few others. I would appreciate this very much if you would do this for me, as I don't know any of the addresses of the fellows, and I would like to hear from them.

Well, I guess I shall have to bring my noisy epistle to an end, as it is getting near taps and I have to "turn in."

PRIVATE C. A. FERGUSON,
Headquarters, Co. 106th Infantry,
Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C.

"On to Berlin! France or Bust!"

Boston, Mass., Dec. 28, 1917.

Dear Friends of the Blue Bell:

It is impossible to say how I felt when the words "Back home on the old job" greeted me. It is nearly nine months since I left the employ of the Company to take up radio operating in the good old U. S. N. and I feel pretty *lonesome for "the old job."*

To my mind there are only two people in the world to work for: Uncle Sam and the good old standby, New York Telephone. Say, friends, you never know how good they are until you have left them.

When you get this, I shall most likely be "sailing, sailing over the bounding main," but I want you to extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who participated in the great gift distribution. How did you know so exactly what was handy? Every last article is "ripping," and the candy was great. Many thanks, friends, and all good New Year's Greetings to you all.

May the coming year see us *all* back home on the old job, each one working merrily and cheerfully for the best corporation ever "corped."

You will hear from me again after I have had a swim in the Kiel Canal. On to Berlin, boys; France or bust!

Sincerely,
A. J. CARVER, Elec. C. R.

"Carry On"

IN writing his acknowledgment from Camp at Kent, England, Sergeant MacCalloch sends a message to his fellow workers in the company. The burden of it is "Carry on," a military term full of meaning to the soldier. He emphasizes the help and inspiration that the men in uniform derive from the knowledge that the activities at home are not discontinued, and from the realization that the folks on the "job" are with them in spirit.

The same note is struck in many other letters. It is an index of the feeling at the front, and may help to show us at least one way in which we can coöperate in making their sacrifice bear fruit.

If you happen to be a baseball fan, you will understand just how much it means to a team to have the home folks rooting for it with might and main. The moral support is tremendous, and the conviction that the pitcher, or catcher, or whoever may be the man of the moment, feels, is often enough in itself to cause him to make a brilliant play. The same thing holds true on a much larger scale in the big game of war, and everything that we can do to make our men realize that we are ready and anxious to give them our support, will serve as an inspiration to them in their effort to "carry on" this fight for freedom.

5th Reserve, 2nd Company, West Standing Camp, Kent, England, December 12th, 1917.

Dear Sir:

On my arrival at the above address I was the proud recipient of the Christmas parcel forwarded by my good friends, the co-workers of the New York Telephone Company, and even if I were an accomplished linguist, I could not find words which would suitably express my feelings. The contents of the parcel were not only tasty but useful, and the committee in charge is to be complimented on its selection. Further comment or criticism would be sacrilege. Perhaps I may be excused if I use a military term and urge those who are still "On the Job" to do their best and "Carry On."

As cherished young men are going to training camps and war-service, the hearts of many are moved to stand to attention, as it were. This is fitting. It is natural and for the good of the men standing forth as the nation's defenders, as well as for the good of our people generally, that manifestations of honor and affection be made in homes and communities. But, when that has been done, what then? The men who have donned the nation's various uniforms and have gone to their places of hardship and danger will surely make a common answer to that question. They will say to their friends at home, "Carry On." We want the life at home to go on as it did when we were with you. It will cheer and nerve us with strength to know that daily duties are being performed unfalteringly, home comforts maintained in full without depression, pleasures continued much the same as before we left you. As winter brings the time when the life of home and school, church and community, usually takes on fuller activity and interest, your soldiers and sailors will wish to know that things are not changed though they are far away. Of course, we would not have you forget us. Most certainly you must and shall do many things all these days to provide for our welfare and mightily support our huge undertaking. You at home are at war as truly as the men who have gone to the fighting. But among all your war-time activities you must not fail to maintain the endeared life at home which is such an empowering and upholding memory in the hearts of your fighting men. Away with downheartedness! Have done with weakened interests and activity! Keep the home bright and cheerful, the school full of spirit, the church alive with hearty workers, engage in social pleasures, and push business man-fashion, spurning the folly of gloom. Let your letters to your men who have gone to the front bear abundant proof of all this. "Carry On"

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at home, even as the men in war-service have learned to lift those words to fuller meaning.

With best regards to all the employees of the New York Telephone Company and extending the Season's Greetings, I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

SERGEANT R. MACCALLOCH.

Field Hospital Company No. 106, 27th Division U. S. A., Spartanburg.

DEAR FRIENDS AND FELLOW EMPLOYEES:

Through THE TELEPHONE REVIEW I want to thank you, "who are still back home on the old job," for your good wishes and the Christmas gifts which you united in sending me. The candies are fine. Some one knew that a soldier always has a "sweet tooth." It gave me great pleasure to know that you all are backing us until we come home, when it's over "Over There." It is just this spirit that will send us into this great struggle unmindful of the dangers ahead of us, knowing that those back home on the old job are with us.

R. GREENWOOD.

Time for Remembrance

DEAR SIR:

Hardly anything nicer could happen to a fellow in my present position than to realize that he has in the past and, God willing, will in the near future, be connected with such a splendid organization of men and women, who, despite the high pressure they must be working under in these abnormal days, still find time to remember the boys at the front or on their way there.

The drill and the life in general are much harder than I anticipated at the time of my enlistment, but it makes things brighter and more cheerful to find you are not forgotten by those left behind.

I realize fully that they also are doing their bit in a different way from myself, and I hereby extend my best wishes for success and my thanks for the package.

J. F. BERARDY, Private,
Co. E., 106 Inf., U. S. A.,
Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C.

Christmas Box Infected with Military Spirit

CAMP GREENE, Charlotte, N. C.,
Ambulance Co. No. 23.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

I want to express my appreciation and thanks for the Christmas box which your committee so kindly sent me. It proved a treat, not only to myself, but also to the other inmates of my tent, as we have adopted the community of interest rule with respect to edibles and the like.

The alacrity with which the box "passed in review" before its admiring audience indicated that it had quickly become infected with the military spirit.

The feature that impressed me personally was that it represented the expression of a kindly thought in my behalf by those whom I had been associated with in the past.

With heartiest Christmas and New Year's greetings to all the members of the Telephone family, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
Private J. B. MACWHINNEY.

CAMP DIX, N. J.

I received your Christmas box this evening, and I can not begin to tell you of how it seems to be "remembered."

Before I go any farther allow me to add my voice to the thousands that you are making happy in a similar fashion, in thanking the men and women of your organization that are active in this work.

I would like to go into detail and tell you just how much I appreciate, and can use to the best advantage every article sent in the box, but that would consume more time than either of us has to spare, and so when I say that this box is the object of no little envy among my companions, I am not tendering it undue flattery, for practically all have received splendid presents and gift boxes.

You ask me to tell you of how I like it. I think it's immense and my feelings of gratitude are proportional.

That phrase you use—"Back at home on the old job" touches the strings a bit, but those strings are the ones that receive little exercise in this camp as we are all of the one mind in this respect and determined to protect that "Job at home" and above all the "home."

Thanking you a thousand times for thinking of me and hoping to be able sometime to repay you in the same coin by being as successful in my enterprise as you have been in yours, I am

Respectfully yours,
[Signature]

A Sure Fit in a Soldier's Kit

CAMP GREENE, Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR:

To express properly my appreciation of the wonderful Xmas box received from the New York Telephone Company employees, is too much of an "over load" for my vocabulary. I can only thank them one and all and trust that they had as merry a Christmas as I did, and wish them a prosperous and happy New Year.

I kept the box for our detachment Xmas tree. Our Major acted as Santa Claus and it certainly was a treat to hear the exclamations of the officers and men when I opened the box.

I certainly felt mighty proud that I was one of the ex-members of the Bell family, and the Telephone Company can feel proud of its standing throughout the country.

Each article of the box is a sure fit in a soldier's kit, and some one of these days, when I get back on the job again, I'll thank personally as many of the bunch as I can. Until then, I wish them all a happy New Year and the Telephone Company as prosperous a one as the times will permit.

Yours very truly,
H. J. DALY,
47th Infantry, M. D.

Sergeant Graham Enjoys His Wooden Stocking

CHRISTMAS, 1917.

DEAR SIR:

I wish to acknowledge, with sincere appreciation, the receipt of the Christmas box. Although it came some days ago, it was marked "Christmas Mail," so I laid it away until this morning. Then, with the aid of a bolo knife, I opened my wooden "stocking" with a feeling akin to that of the days when one perfectly good piece of juvenile hosiery used to hang by the mantelpiece on Christmas morning.

For the knife, the money belt, the pencil (which I am using now), the tobacco, and candy—I thank you. But you ask me to tell you what I think of them! Mr. Editor, I can't tell you what I think of them. But as I looked into the box of gifts, with each dainty little package seeming to bring an added message of good cheer from the folks back home, I seemed to see beyond the brown walls of our little tent, and for a few moments I caught a fleeting glimpse of those "back on the old job,"—the pals that I like so well. And that little vision went a long way to brighten the darkest day away from home—Christmas.

Sincerely,
HAROLD W. GRAHAM,
Sergeant Co. B, 105 U. S. Infantry,
Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C.

Telephone Training Valuable in Army

IT is very gratifying to note from our correspondence with the Telephone employees who are with the colors, that instead of merely marking time, they are marching forward from Private to Corporal, from Corporal to Sergeant, even up to the position of Brigadier General! Many write that their training in the New York Telephone Company has proved invaluable to them in their work in the army, and that they attribute their success to the specialized training received while in its employ. Captain James J. Walsh even goes so far as to say that the constant drilling in courtesy that the Telephone employee gets is one of his greatest assets when in the army.

COAST DEFENSES OF SANDY HOOK,
Fort Hancock, New Jersey.

DEAR SIR:

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge receipt of the token of remembrance which was sent by the men and women of the New York Telephone Company, together with their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year of 1918. This package came to me as a surprise, and although I have received several others, you may be assured that I appreciated this package most of all, as the other packages I have received came with the sentiments of one or two persons, whereas this package came with the sentiments of the entire Telephone Company.

I might add that the Telephone Company may feel extremely proud of the men who came forth into the army from their employ, as in my position as Adjutant I have come across several former employees of the Company, and many officers have commented on their manly appearance, bearing, and the courtesy shown by them at all times. I can attribute this to the constant drilling which the Telephone employees get in courtesy, which is one of the greatest assets both in the army and Telephone Company. In fact, I know in my own case that the training that I received while in the employ of the Telephone Company has been a wonderful help to me, in handling the different problems which fall in my line, and as a result of this training I have been so successful in some of the undertakings where I had to handle cases with courtesy and diplomacy, that it was commented upon in a recent issue of the *Army and Navy Journal*. For all this, credit is due the Telephone Company.

JAMES J. WALSH.

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Major General George O. Squier

Pioneer and Organizer

THE great two-sided task of upbuilding America's air fleet and of providing for all the field telephone and wireless communications for our new armies, has been intrusted to Major General George O. Squier, who, as it happens, drew up the first airplane specifications ever issued by a war office, who was the first passenger to go up in an airplane, and who has invented many electrical communicating appliances along the lines of his present work. General Squier thus brings to the great responsibility resting upon him, a life's effort in science and a military training, running back through four years at the embassy in London, the present war, the Philippine insurrection and the Spanish War, to West Point.

The importance of his duties cannot be exaggerated. The Air Service, which this year needs a billion dollars above the $700,000,000 allotted last year, is counted on to clear the road to victory for the American ground troops. Soon, from the skies of France, the men now under General Squier's care will be guiding American batteries, saving American lives from surprise attack, bombing German trenches, seeking out German guns, while the Signal Corps itself will be serving as the nerves of the Army, flashing back and forth, by radio and by telephone, the priceless intelligence upon which every military move must depend. The life of the man responsible for this organization is, therefore, doubly interesting.

Scientific Work

GENERAL SQUIER was born in Dryden, Michigan, March 21, 1865, in the old homestead which he still owns, and which was settled by his grandfather in 1835. In 1883 he was chosen for West Point, and in 1887 graduated seventh in a class of 65. Appointed 2nd lieutenant in the Third Artillery at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, on June 12, 1887, he put in all his spare time studying physics at Johns Hopkins University under such leaders as Rowland, Remsen and Newcomb. There he laid the basis of his scientific knowledge, being made a fellow of the University during the years 1902, 1903, and 1904, and receiving his Ph.D. in 1903.

In 1897 he announced before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers a new method of rapid telegraphy, based on the use of the alternating current with the polarizing photo-chronograph. Three years later he announced to the same society the adaptation of these principles to cable telegraphy, using the sine wave e. m. f.'s as worked out in experiments begun the year before with Dr. A. C. Crehore.

Meanwhile his military career claimed him, especially during the rush of the Spanish War. In 1900 he took the cable steamer *Burnside* from New York through Suez to the Philippines, where he laid the inter-island cable still in use. During this time he rose through various ranks till he was made Major March 2, 1903.

In 1907, as Chief of Staff to General Allen, of the Signal Corps, he was entrusted with drawing up the first specifications for a military airplane ever issued by any government. On September 12, of the next year, when in charge of the first tests at Fort Myer, he made the first ascent as a passenger in an airplane ever made. That December he showed his faith in aviation by a public address stating that airplanes are fast "obliterating present national frontiers in conducting military operations."

A Man of Genius

AFTER several years more of intense scientific investigation he was sent, in 1912, to England as military attaché to the American embassy, where he built up many of the friendships and secured much of the information, especially in the first two years of the war, that have since proved so useful. He also represented the United States at the International Radio Conference in London that year. It was there, too, in June, 1915, before the Physical Society that he made the announcement of his cable transmission invention, which later led to its adoption. It is estimated that this doubled the capacity of the cables by substituting for the cable "curve," made by opening and closing the circuit, a single-phase alternating current of the sine wave type, operating with the Morse code.

The Right Man in the Right Place

IN May, 1916, with the war two years old and the vital importance of aviation fully demonstrated, he was recalled to this country by President Wilson to reorganize the Air Service. On the 14th of the following February he was appointed Chief Signal Officer in charge of both aviation and the Signal Corps, with the rank of Brigadier General, which was increased to Major General on October 6, 1917. During the brief eight months since he has been in charge, the Air Service has jumped from a strength of 2,000 to an authorized strength of 153,000; its appropriations have increased from about a million dollars in five years to $700,000,000 granted in one, and a billion asked in the next; its planes and aviators have increased from a handful to thousands. The Signal Corps itself has had to meet the needs of an army six times that of a few months ago.

General Squier is a Fellow of the Physical Society of London; a member of the Royal Institution of Great Britain; the American Mathematical Society; the Franklin Institute; the American Association for the Advancement of Science; the American Physical Society; the American Philosophical Society; the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and other scientific and professional bodies. He was awarded the John Scott Legacy Medal in 1896 by the city of Philadelphia for the polarizing photo-chronograph, and in 1912 the Elliott Cresson gold medal, the highest honor of the Franklin Institute, for his work in multiplex telegraphy on "wired wireless," by which half a dozen wireless messages run outside of, but are guided by, a single wire. He has also issued inventions in the use of trees as antennæ in wireless telegraphy; the electro-chemical effects of magnetization, and the absorption of electro-magnetic waves by living vegetable organisms.

A Leader of Men

BUT what is most important, General Squier, with these manifold scientific acquirements, possesses in a remarkable degree the capacity for leadership. He is a good judge of men and has surrounded himself with a scientific and military personnel which is representative of the highest type of American achievement. He possesses in a high degree those personal qualities, found only in leaders of men, which call forth the enthusiastic and loyal support of all of those who are privileged to serve under him. Among those who are thus privileged, none will serve more faithfully or loyally than the men of the Bell System, who entered the reserves of the Signal Corps which were established with so much wisdom and foresight by General Squier, even before our country had entered the war.

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Income Taxation

Under Laws Now in Force, as Affecting Employees for the Year 1917—Third Paper

IN the first and second of the series of articles on Income Taxation, published respectively in the December and January issues of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, certain observations of a general character were made as to the history and scope of the laws now in force and as to the basis of arriving at taxable net income; together with interpretations of various provisions of the laws which were considered of importance to employees. The salient features to which attention has thus been called may now briefly be emphasized as follows:

1. The basis of income tax is in all cases the return of the individual of net income received during the year 1917. This return must be filed on or before March 1, 1918, with the Collector of Internal Revenue of the district in which the individual resides or has his place of business. The return must be filed on blanks to be obtained from the Collector and in form as required by the blank.
2. Returns must be filed by all unmarried persons and by all married persons living separate and apart from husband or wife, whose net income during the year 1917 equalled or exceeded $1,000; and by all married persons whose net income equalled or exceeded $2,000. The return must be filed even if by reason of the personal exemption to which the individual is entitled he may not be subject to tax.
3. In the case of employees to whom these articles are chiefly addressed, that is, employees whose net income during the year 1917 did not exceed $3,000, the tax is 2 per cent. of such net income.
4. Taxes will be computed by the Government on the returns and bills will be sent out on or before June 1, 1918, to the addresses named in the returns. Taxes must be paid on or before June 15, 1918, under heavy penalties.
5. The net income is arrived at by deducting from the gross income from all sources during 1917 certain items set forth in detail in the first of the series of articles.
6. Personal exemptions are allowed of $1,000 in the case of unmarried persons or of married persons living separate and apart from husband or wife, and of $2,000 in the case of married persons or of heads of families, plus an additional exemption of $200 for each dependent child under eighteen years of age or mentally or physically incapacitated for self-support. A total exemption of $2,000 in the case of married persons may be claimed by either husband or wife but not by both, or may be divided between them. It is customary for the husband to make the return for himself and family, which, in such case, should include the income of husband, wife and children, and should set forth a claim of the total exemption to which he is entitled, $2,000 for himself and wife, plus additional exemptions for dependent children, as above.
7. A "head of family" is a person who, because of some moral or legal obligation, actually supports and maintains one or more individuals closely related to him or her by blood, marriage, or adoption.
8. Sums actually received during 1917 are not all to be included and reported as income. For further information reference may be had to the second of the series of articles, published in the January issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW. It should be observed that the suggestions made in the second article as to what constitutes income have not at present, as to certain items, the authority of Treasury Department regulations, no decisions covering the subject having as yet been issued by the Department. The suggestions, however, are believed to be supported by a reasonable interpretation of the Law.

IN the present article it is proposed through concrete examples to illustrate the practical working out of the method of computation of net income in certain cases believed to be typical. Obviously, it is impracticable to furnish more than a few simple illustrations, but it is believed that with these as a guide employees will be able readily to prepare their returns.

In this connection and for the further information of employees, Form 1040 A, the official blank provided by the Treasury Department for individual return for the year 1917 of net incomes of not more than $3,000, has been reproduced in convenient form and will be distributed with this issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW. After acquiring a general knowledge of the subject from a reading of the first two articles of the series, the employee should carefully study the form. This will be found to be self-explanatory. A few observations, however, may be profitable.

The form consists of four pages and should be opened so that pages two and three will face the reader. Page one contains general instructions which should be fairly familiar to the readers of these articles. Page three is intended for a statement of the details of taxable income divided according to a natural and convenient classification of sources of income. These classifications are termed blocks and are to be filled out according to instructions contained in the corresponding blocks or subdivisions on page two. Page four contains the final statement of net income for the calendar year 1917 and consists of lines or spaces for certain information which the individual can readily supply, and the Calculation of Net Income for the year, arrived at by adding to the net income, as shown at the bottom of page three, items of interest and dividends actually received, if any, during the year, and deducting religious, charitable or educational contributions, if any. This calculation, which apparently is chiefly for purposes of information, is followed by the Calculation of Tax Due, which is 2 per cent. of the balance of net income after allowance of personal exemptions, according to the instructions on page one. The conclusion of the blank is devoted to the form of affidavit to be executed by the individual making the return before a notary public.

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In supplying the information called for by the blocks on page three, great care should be taken to follow the instructions contained on page two in the corresponding block. Particularly does this apply to the items of wear and tear, expenses and losses, the items to be included as Other Income in Block E and the items of General Deductions in Block G. For example, it is to be observed that in Block E, Other Income, certain income is not to be reported on page three in the corresponding block, but is to be added in calculating net income on page four; whereas certain other income, such as interest on Liberty Bonds, is not to be reported at all, for the reason that it is not taxable.

THE following illustrations are given with the explanation above, repeated, that they cover only certain cases believed to be typical and that further illustrations are not practicable within the limits of this article. If an employee is still in doubt as to the method of computing his net income or of preparing the return, he should consult the Internal Revenue Collector of his district, or call at one of the agencies which the Department has established for that purpose at convenient locations. In the illustrations given below references are made in each case to Form 1040 A and to the block and line designations contained on pages three and four of that form. It is to be noted that the blocks should not be left blank but that the word "none" should be written where applicable. All blank lines or spaces should be filled out, notably the name and home address of the taxpayer at the top of page four.

Illustration 1

JOHN DOE, an unmarried person, receiving during 1917 a salary of $30 per week. He resides with his widowed mother who received a Civil War pension of $20 per month. They live in a rented apartment. He owns ten shares of American Telephone and Telegraph Company stock, fully paid. His mother owns a house and lot, which is rented for $30 per month. During 1917 he subscribed $10 to the Red Cross and at different times gave $12 to various charities.

His mother is not supported by him, so John Doe is "single" and not the "head of a family." She makes no income tax return, for her income does not amount to $1,000. He reports as follows:

ON PAGE 3

A.—Income from Salaries, etc.

John Doe, lineman, New York Telephone Co., 15 Dey St., N. Y. $1,560

Total $1,560

B., C., D., E.
"None."

F.—Total Net Income, etc. $1,560

G.—General Deductions, etc.
"None."
(Contributions—Red Cross, Children's Aid Society, etc.) (*Names* only)

H.—Total Net Income, etc. $1,560

ON PAGE 4

Lines 1 to 6—"No" or "None."
Line 7—Write in such addresses, or answer "None."
Line 8—Net income shown on page 3 ..... $1,560.00
Line 9—"None."
Line 10—Add dividends 80.00
Line 11—Total 1,640.00
Line 12—Less contributions 22.00
Line 13—Total net income 1,618.00
Line 14—Net income shown on page 3 ..... $1,560.00
Line 15—Less contributions 22.00
Line 16—Balance of net income 1,538.00
Line 17—Less personal exemption 1,000.00
Line 18—Balance 538.00
Line 19—Tax due 10.76

If John Doe supported his mother, who was wholly or largely dependent upon him, he would be a "head of a family" and as such would be entitled to personal exemption of $2,000. In that case, however, he would be required to report in Block E on page three of the blank whatever income his mother had in 1917.

If the John Doe of the illustration owned no shares of stock and had no income except his salary, he should fill out page 3 as in the illustration. On page 4 he should write "none" on line 10, and should change lines 11 and 13 accordingly.

If he owned a bond of a corporation which had covenanted to pay interest in full without deduction of income tax, he should fill out page 3 as before, but on line 9 of page 4 he should report the interest actually received from such corporation. It is to be noted that the addition of items on lines 9 and 10 does not operate to increase the tax, the tax being based on the "balance" reported on line 18, which is computed without reference to items reported on lines 9 and 10.

If, in addition to the American Telephone and Telegraph stock which he owns, he is a subscriber for additional shares on the employees' installment purchase plan and by reason thereof has actually received in 1917 less than $1,560 (his salary of $30 per week) he should, nevertheless, as before, report the sum of $1,560 under A on page 3. The dividends credited to his account by the company on the shares so subscribed for should not be reported on line 10 on page 4. As stated in the preceding articles, his net income from the purchase should be reported for the year in which the transaction is closed and the shares delivered to him.

Illustration 2

RICHARD ROE received in 1917 the same amount of salary and was in precisely the same situation as to income and expenditures as shown in Illustration 1 for John Doe, except that he resides with and supports his widowed sister and her daughter four years old. The sister had in 1917 an income of $120, the proceeds of her deceased husband's insurance policy.

If Richard Roe desires to claim exemption as a "head of a family," and a further exemption for one dependent child, it is believed that he may do so, although the dependents are his sister and niece instead of wife and child. He is thus entitled to exemption of $2,200, but must include in his return his sister's income in 1917 of $120. In other words, it is believed that an individual may claim exemption as a "head of a family," if he is within the definition given above, although he is unmarried and has no children of his own. It should be borne in mind, however, in such cases, that the income of each dependent because of whom exemption is claimed, must be included in the return.

In case he desires to make this claim, Richard Roe's entries on page 3 of the blank should be the same as in the first illustration down to Block E, where the sister's name and net income should be reported. His total net

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income should then be reported on lines F and H as $1,680, instead of $1,560. Page 4 should be filled out as follows:

Line 1—"No," "None," "None."
Line 2—"No," "Yes."
Line 3—"One," "No."
Line 4—"Yes," "Yes," "No."
Line 5—"No."
Line 6—"None."
Line 7—Write in such addresses or answer "None."
Line 8—Net income shown on page 3..... $1,680.00
Line 9—"None."
Line 10—Add dividends..... 80.00
Line 11—Total 1,760.00
Line 12—Less contributions..... 22.00
Line 13—Total net income..... 1,738.00
Line 14—Net income shown on page 3..... 1,680.00
Line 15—Less contributions..... 22.00
Line 16—Balance of net income..... 1,658.00
Line 17—Less personal exemption..... 2,200.00
Line 18—Balance ..... None
Line 19—Tax due ..... None

As above stated, however, though not taxable, he is required to file and make return of net income in the usual form and way.

If in the case assumed the sister had two children, one sixteen years old, the other nineteen, but without mental or physical incapacity, Richard Roe's return would be in no wise changed, for he would be entitled to exemption for the sixteen-year-old child alone. If the nineteen-year-old child is incapable of self-support, the total exemption would be $2,400, and Richard Roe should report "two" instead of "one" on line 3 of page 4 and should change line 17 on that page accordingly.

Illustration 3

JONES SMITH received during 1917 a salary of $200 per month. He lives with his wife and their two children. They own the house they live in, free and clear of all encumbrances, and another house, also free and clear, which is rented for $40 per month. The rented dwelling cost $4,000 and has a probable life of twenty-five years, giving a "wear and tear" (or depreciation) on it of $160 per year. The repairs on it in 1917 cost $100. His wife has an annual income of $350 from her father's estate. Their eldest child, a boy of sixteen, earns $6 weekly as a messenger. During 1917 Mr. Smith contributed $85 to various charities and to the Red Cross. He reports as follows (his wife and son making no report):

ON PAGE 3

A.—Income from Salaries, etc.
Jones Smith, foreman, New York Telephone Co., 15 Dey St., N. Y..... $2,400
Jones Smith, Jr., messenger, Newark Trust Co., Newark, N. J..... 312
Total $2,712

B. and C.
"None."

D.—Income from Rents, etc.

1	2	3	4	5	
Dwelling (wood)...	$4,000	$480	$260	None	
Total net income, etc.....					$220

E.—Other Income.

	1	2	
Mrs. Jones Smith (father's estate)	$350	None	
Net total.....			$350

F.—Total Net Income, etc...... $3,282
G.—General Deductions, etc.
Interest paid on indebtedness..... None
Taxes paid—"on real estate owned"..... $218
Other deductions, if any, etc..... None
Total $218
(Contributions—Charity Organization Society, Red Cross, etc.) (*Names* only).
H.—Total Net Income, etc...... $3,064

ON PAGE 4

Line 1—Answer "Yes," and state facts.
Line 2—"Yes," "No."
Line 3—"Two," "No."
Line 4—"Yes," "Yes," "No."
Lines 5 and 6—"None."
Line 7—Write in such addresses, or answer "None."
Line 8—Net income shown on page 3..... $3,064.00
Lines 9 and 10—"None."
Line 11—Total 3,064.00
Line 12—Less contributions..... 85.00
Line 13—Total net income..... 2,979.00
Line 14—Net income shown on page 3..... 3,064.00
Line 15—Less contributions..... 85.00
Line 16—Balance of net income..... 2,979.00
Line 17—Less personal exemption..... 2,400.00
Line 18—Balance 579.00
Line 19—Tax due 11.58

The Jones Smith above is permitted by the law to deduct all taxes paid on real estate, both his dwelling and the rented premises. He cannot, however, include depreciation and repair expense attaching to his dwelling. Such items are living expenses and not deductible.

It should be remembered that so-called betterment assessments (for street improvements, etc.) are not deductible as taxes.

If Jones Smith owns only an equity in each of the two houses, he may as before deduct the items of wear and tear and repairs on the rented premises and, in addition, all interest actually paid during the year on both mortgages, all such interest being deductible under the law.

Likewise, if Smith owns but the one house, his dwelling, he may deduct all interest and taxes paid on it during the year, but not depreciation or repair items, for the reasons stated.

If Smith actually paid during the year interest on other indebtedness, he may include it under G, General Deductions, on page 3, provided the indebtedness was not incurred for the purchase of Liberty Bonds or other securities, the income from which is not taxable. (See Instructions in Block G, on page 2.)

Furthermore, under "Other Deductions," etc., in G on page 3, Smith may claim an allowance for all debts due him which were actually ascertained to be worthless and charged off during the year.

Illustration 4

BROWN WHITE is paid $40 per week. He lives with his wife and their three dependent children (under eighteen) in a rented apartment. He has savings of $4,000 invested in mortgages at 6 per cent., and during 1917 paid $36 for legal expenses connected therewith. Throughout the year 1917 he had $340 in a savings bank at 4 per cent. interest and has invested $1,200 in Liberty Bonds. In May, 1917, he sold a lot for $225 more than the purchase price paid in 1913. He reports as follows:

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ON PAGE 3

A.—Income from Salaries, etc.

Brown White, inspector, New York Telephone Co., 15 Dey St., N. Y. $2,080.00

Total $2,080.00

B.

"None."

C.—Profit from Sale of Land, Buildings, etc.

1	2	3	4	
Building lot.....	1913	$1,875	$1,650	
Total profit				$225.00

D.—Income, etc.

"None."

E.—Other Income.

	1	2	
From money loaned on mortg's	$240.00	$36	
From money in savings bank..	13.60	...	
Net total	$253.60	$36	$217.60

F.—Total Net Income, etc. $2,522.60

G.—General Deductions, etc.

"None."

H.—Total Net Income, etc. $2,522.60

ON PAGE 4

Line 1—"No," "None," "None."
Line 2—"Yes," "No."
Line 3—"Three," "No."
Line 4—"No," "No," "No."
Lines 5 and 6—"None."
Line 7—Write in such addresses, or answer "None."
Line 8—Net income shown on page 3..... $2,522.60
Lines 9 and 10—"None."
Line 11—Total 2,522.60
Line 12—Less contribution..... None
Line 13—Total net income..... 2,522.60
Line 14—Net income shown on page 3..... 2,522.60
Line 15—Less contributions..... None
Line 16—Balance of net income..... 2,522.60
Line 17—Less personal exemption..... 2,600.00
Line 18—Balance ..... None
Line 19—Tax due ..... None

It will be noticed that Brown White's income from Liberty Bonds is not reported in E, Other Income, on page 3, for the reason that such income in his case is not taxable. See the second article of the series.

If by reason of his being a subscriber for Liberty Bonds on the employees' installment purchase plan he did not actually receive in 1917 his total salary of $2,080, because of deductions by the company for installment payments, he should nevertheless report as income the full amount of his salary.

In the illustration, Block C on page 3, it is assumed that the lot was purchased subsequent to March 1, 1913. In case the purchase was made before March 1, 1913, the fair market value on that date should be estimated and profit, if any, computed accordingly. See instructions in Block C on page 2.

ASIDE from the above illustrations, there are undoubtedly many cases where employees have purchased their homes or other property upon an installment purchase plan and are making periodical payments, upon the completion of which title passes. As to such cases it is believed that a reasonable interpretation of the Law will permit the employee to claim an allowance of such portion of payments so made during 1917 as may fairly be considered to represent interest actually paid.

Deposits made during the year by a member of a building or loan association are of course not to be treated as deductions from income. At the maturity of the series the gains or profits to the individual should, it is believed, be reported as net income for the year in which the transaction is finally completed. Doubtful questions of this character should, however, be referred for advice to the Collector of Internal Revenue for the district in which the employee resides or does business.

For the benefit of employees a list of the names and addresses of such collectors in the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut is given, as follows:

NEW YORK:

First District.—The counties of Kings, Nassau, Queens, Richmond and Suffolk—Henry P. Keith, Federal Building, Brooklyn.

Second District.—The old first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth, and fifteenth wards of New York City; that portion of the old fourteenth ward lying west of the center of Mott Street; that portion of the old sixteenth ward lying south of the center of West Twenty-fourth Street, and Governor's Island—William H. Edwards, Custom House, New York.

Third District.—The old seventh, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second wards of New York City; that part of the old fourteenth ward lying east of the center of Mott Street; that part of the old sixteenth ward lying north of the center of West Twenty-fourth Street, and Blackwell's, Randall's, and Ward's Islands—Mark Eisner, 1150 Broadway (27th Street), New York.

Fourteenth District.—The counties of Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Dutchess, Essex, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington, and Westchester, and the old twenty-third and twenty-fourth wards of New York City—Roscoe Irwin, Albany.

Twenty-first District.—The counties of Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Franklin, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Tioga, Tompkins and Wayne—Neil Brewster, Syracuse.

Twenty-eighth District.—The counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genessee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Steuben, Wyoming and Yates—Vincent H. Riordan, Buffalo.

NEW JERSEY:

First District.—The counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem—Samuel Iredell, Camden.

Fifth District.—The counties of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren—Charles V. Duffy, Newark.

CONNECTICUT:

James J. Walsh, Hartford.

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An Interesting Experience in the "Western"

Setting poles in mud and water knee deep

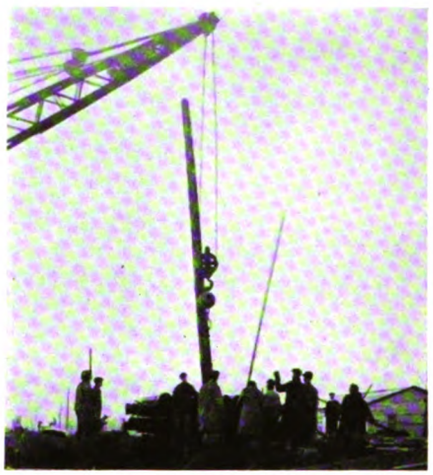
LATE one Friday afternoon this fall the supervising foreman of a district near Buffalo was handed some prints and informed that the work should be completed the following day. These prints called for the setting of twenty-three 35-foot chestnut poles and placing of twenty-seven crossarms for the purpose of carrying the circuits of a flood-light system, which was being installed on the grounds of a Marine Engine Plant, engaged on Government work.

There had been considerable rain for several days prior to the beginning of the work, but for the week immediately preceding there had been fine sunshine. However, despite the sunshine, the ground at the place where the work was to be done was in bad condition. In most places it was covered with water to a depth of from twelve to eighteen inches, and underlying the water was a deep stratum of soft yellow mud.

Making the Mud Fly

WHEN the gang, composed of three gangs, assembled under the direct supervision of the supervising foreman, arrived on the scene, they found that eleven of the poles had to be set in the water, necessitating the digging of pole holes under water—an extremely difficult undertaking — but they went at it without a grumble, and how the mud and clay did fly! The remaining twelve poles had to be set in the soft mud, which was about as difficult as setting the others under water. Whenever a workman wanted to change position, he was obliged to hold his boots up with his hands in order to prevent the suction of the mud from pulling them off.

There were sixteen men engaged on this job, some of whom were known as "old-timers," and all agreed that this condition was the worst they had ever encountered in all their years of experience in pole construction. Of course, under this severe handicap, it was impossible to complete the job in one day, and no work was done on Sunday, but the work prints were turned in on the completed job before noon on Monday.



A steam crane surpasses elbow grease in setting a 35-foot pole under difficult circumstances

Thanks are due to the Government officer who generously permitted the accompanying photographs to be taken.

A Steam Crane to the Rescue

A FORTUNATE coincidence occurred, when we found, at a point where the working conditions had become the worst yet encountered, a steam crane situated conveniently near the place where a thirty-five-foot chestnut was to be set. The crane was used by a contractor engaged in work on the buildings. The foreman in charge of the crane volunteered the services of the crane in assisting to set the pole.

It would be difficult to describe the grateful looks of that bunch of husky, but very wet and very weary, linemen as they stood back and watched the thirty-five-footer get into position by the power of steam, guided by a turn of one hand, instead of the usual and well-known commodity known by the technical name of "elbow grease."

The most gratifying and significant feature of this little story lies, not in the description of obstacles overcome, however, but in assuring the reader that the men worked with a will and with an entire absence of grumbling, and the practical utilization of our nation-wide slogan, "THE VOICE (and disposition) WITH THE SMILE WINS."

Finding Lost Persons

THE St. Lawrence County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in reporting upon its work last year says that no assistance it received from the many who cooperated with it was more valuable than that given by the operators of the Mountain Home Telephone Company. "They rendered valuable aid in locating parties at all hours of the day and night," Agent J. J. O'Brien is quoted as saying. One instance given is that of a local night operator locating a man after a search of several hours who was wanted by Mr. O'Brien, as his child had died in an institution and the authorities wanted to know what disposition to make of the body. The man had dropped out of sight months before, and he was finally located by the operator ten miles back in the woods in an Adirondack lumber camp and brought to the nearest telephone station.

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THIS ROLL OF HONOR, containing the names of 1,152 of our fellow-workers, very naturally fills our hearts with pride and joy.

We had been closely associated with the men whose names are on this Roll in what we like to think of as a noble undertaking, whose ordinary every-day work is, in fact, a patriotic service; and when the call to other patriotic service—a service fraught with danger and privation—came, these men responded unhesitatingly, and went forth to face all sorts of hardships, and perchance to make the supreme sacrifice.

This was a magnificent thing to do.

We may well be proud of these, our brothers, and rejoice with them in the splendid opportunity which has come to each of them of serving his country in this fine and noble way.

We shall sympathize, too, very deeply in the hour of trial and suffering that must inevitably come to some of them "over there."

Without them and the great army of which they are to be a part there would not be much worth while left for us. This we know. On the other hand, without us, and without what we can and must do to sustain and support them, their efforts, however heroic, will be in vain.

Ours, too, is a splendid opportunity.

Through sacrifice and suffering, if need be, through patience, forbearance, steadfastness, a conscientious doing of our work as it comes to us day by day, shall we translate our sympathy, our joy, our pride, into something real, something helpful, something splendidly comforting and sustaining.

Thus to each of us may come the Glory of Sharing.

W. W. Bertholf

New York,
January 17, 1918.

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division

Adams, R. H.
Addicks, F. F.
Ahrenholz, W.
Aims, C. H.
Albers, H. H.
Alexander, S. E.
Anderson, A. G. O.
Anderson, H. J. H.
Anthony, J.
Aschoff, J. H.
Asmann, A. C.
Axt, G. F.
Badeau, C.
Bailey, C. H.
Baillie, M. C.
Baker, H. S.
Balcom, W. O.
Balser, J. H.
Bangs, A. V. W.
Bantleman, W. L.
Bartley, J. J.
Bartolucci, C.
Batkay, J.
Battistella, F. C.
Baumann, J. F.
Beckwith, C. T.
Behan, C. J.
Bennett, A. A.
Bennett, F.
Bergen, H. E.
Berry, C. M.
Birdsall, D. K.
Bogue, J. F.
Bolt, J. J.
Borges, L. K.
Bostick, J. W.
Bothner, C. H.
Boylan, W. F.
Brady, T. C.
Brees, F. H.
Brennan, P. A.
Brickwedel, C.
Brochmeier, T.
Broderick, F. H.
Brombacher, A. M.
Brooks, F. E.
Brooks, H. J.
Brown, H. E.
Brown, R. J.
Brownholtz, G. R.
Bruley, J. I.
Bruttel, L. J.
Brysildsen, B.
Buchanan, G. W.
Budd, E. E.
Buell, M. L.
Buhler, W.
Burgess, E. B.
Burns, L. B.
Butler, A. D.
Cano, R. L.
Caron, J. J.
Carroll, T. P.
Casey, J. J.
Cavanagh, J. J.
Chrisman, J. C.
Christopher, J. C.
Ciffone, J. F.
Claffy, T. W.
Clark, M. A.
Clarke, E. M.
Cobb, B. E.
Cobett, G. W.
Cole, N. D.
Cole, R. O.
Collins, M.
Cone, E. L.
Conner, W. J.
Contant, A. J.
Convery, C. D.
Conway, J. J.
Coogan, J. E.
Coppers, W. J.
Cosgrove, A.
Cosgrove, R.
Crawley, R. E.
Crilley, C. A.
Curtis, H. B.
Dahn, R. C.
Dallard, J. J. T.
Daniels, H. W.
Darnulc, A. J.
Daumont, L. B.
Deile, E. L.
Denike, R. H.
Desmarais, J. H.
Dillon, J. T., Jr.
Dinen, J.
Diveny, J. A.
Doherty, E. A.
Dollard, J. J. T.
Donohoe, J. E.
Doyle, C. L.
Doyle, T. J.
Draudt, H. W.
Dravis, J. H.
Duffy, P. J.
Dunn, E. T., Jr.
Dunn, M. J.
Duran, L. M.
Durant, G. P.
Dusenberry, D. R.
Eayrs, E. B.
Ebbecke, C. A.
Edenholm, G. H.
Egbert, F. J.
Egleston, N. H.
Egner, P. H.
Ehlenberger, J. E.
Ehrsam, P.
Eichler, J. E.
Eichler, P. H.
Elbthal, A. M.
Eliot, A. V.
Ellis, D. B.
Ellis, R. W.
Enea, C.
Erikson, E. A.
Esler, H. L.
Ettinger, F. S.
Evans, D.
Evert, G. C.
Faber, H. C.
Falk, H. L.
Farley, T. J.
Farrell, E. J.
Farrell, T. C.
Felter, G. G.
Felter, H. C.
Fendt, W. F.
Ferguson, C. A.
Finnegan, T. E.
Fischer, J.
Fitzpatrick, A. A.
Flaherty, E. F.
Flanly, B. J.
Flannery, S. T.
Flynn, F. P.
Foresman, J. J.
Forker, H. W.
Fortner, A. W.
Fowler, T. B.
Fox, H. P.
Friedrick, L. A., Jr.
Frohne, H. C., Jr.
Furlong, R., Jr.
Gabrini, L. H.
Gaffney, L.
Gambel, N. H.
Game, W. C.
Garlock, W. J.
Geiger, C.
Geositis, F. F.
Gerisch, W. J.
Gill, W. F.
Gilloon, D. T.
Gilway, J. J.
Gluck, J. P.
Goebel, C. A.
Goldsmith, E. H.
Gormley, J. A.
Gough, E. C.

To January 17, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division—(Continued)

Graham, H. W.
Grant, F.
Grathwohl, G. J.
Gray, W. N.
Griffin, G. J.
Griffiths, L. H.
Grimshaw, C. A.
Gross, J. H.
Grosser, W.
Groszmann, W. P.
Grumann, L. A.
Haberman, J. J.
Hahnel, W. J.
Hale, H. C.
Hall, W. B.
Halvorsen, C. H.
Hamje, J. F.
Hammett, H. H.
Handy, C. W.
Harford, T. W.
Harp, L. W.
Harrebomes-Jutting E. F. L. V.
Hart, J. H.
Harty, G. F.
Hassett, H. G.
Hazen, C. P.
Healey, J. F.
Heenan, E. J.
Heinle, I. W.
Helm, H. P.
Henkel, W.
Hennessey, W. J.
Henyon, R. DeW.
Hesse, L. C.
Hilbert, G. L.
Hill, G. E.
Hoch, G. I.
Hodgins, G. F.
Hoeltje, C. P.
Hollberg, E.
Hollinger, E. K.
Holohan, J. F.
Hope, R. D.
Hopkins, J. E.
Hopkins, T. F.
Houk, V. E.
Hovey, M.
Hudson, G.
Hyde, A. N.
Icker, G. R.
Jackson, T. B.
Jacobs, V. C.
Jenkins, J. J.
Johanson, O. A. E.
Johnsen, W.
Johnson, J. A.
Johnson, J.
Jonas, J. E.
Jones, E. W.
Jordan, Francis E.
Jordan, Frank E.
Kaiser, F. H.
Kaiser, P. P.
Kampfer, F. A. H.
Kane, E. T.
Kane, V. F.
Karstetter, W. S.
Keely, C. D.
Kehoe, J. J.
Kelly, E. J.
Kemmerer, J. E.
Kemp, S.
Kennedy, J.
Kennedy, L. M.
Kerby, C. K.
Kernstock, F. D.
Kilcline, F.
Killgore, E. W.
Kimmerle, A. J.
Kinney, J. J.
Kirchdoerffer, A. E.
Kirk, T.
Kirkup, H. R.
Kleinknecht, G.
Knight, A. R.
Knudson, E. C.
Kochan, L. M.
Korn, H.
Kraus, L. C.
Kuntz, H. V.
Kuntz, J. H.
LaForge, S. S.
Laing, J. A.
LaTour, S. J.
Laurie, J. J.
Lehmann, J. F.
Lemore, C. W., Jr.
Lenz, H. B.
Leslie, R. H., Jr.
Lewin, M.
Lightfine, H. L.
Lindorff, W. F.
Lindquist, F. E. L.
Linn, C. A.
Lothman, E. W.
Lowden, J. G.
Lowe, F. J.
Lozier, O. L.
Lucas, G. R.
Lum, G. A.
Lynar, V. E.
Lynch, G. W.
Lyons, M. J.
Maar, R. D.
Maben, E.
Mack, J. J.
MacKnight, J. N.
Maginnis, J. F.
Maguire, E.
Maher, C. H.
Maher, T. F.
Malmstrom, H. T.
Mamel, A. L.
Mann, E.
Maps, C. E.
Mastin, F. W.
Mayer, C. A.
McCabe, J. P.
McCann, L. J.
McCloskey, E. H.
McCook, A. A.
McCormack, H. J.
McCormack, J. F. S.
McCormack, J. J.
McCoy, J. W.
McGeown, F. J.
McGillick, P.
McGovern, J. J.
McGowan, F. X.
McGowan, W. J.
McGrail, J.
McGuire, C. J.
McGuire, J. J.
McHale, J.
McKeon, W. E.
McKinney, R. DeW.
McLaughlin, E. R.
McLean, D.
McMaugh, M. A.
McNulty, J. J.
McRoberts, R. B.
McTernan, H. A.
Meade, W.
Meany, P. J.
Mellinger, J. M.
Mester, H.
Meyer, F. T.
Milkolajewski, C.
Miller, C. A.
Miller, G.
Miller, G. J.
Miller, H. L.
Millspaugh, J. H.
Milne, G. P.
Monarch, A. M.
Moody, R.
Moon, G. R.
Moore, A. T.
Moore, C.
Moore, J. H.
Moore, R. F.
Mott, C. J.
Mottram, E.
Mueller, E. C.
Mullen, F. D.

To January 17, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division—(Continued)

Muller, G. W.
Mullin, M. J.
Mulry, E. A.
Munz, A.
Murgatroyd, M. E.
Murphy, J. A.
Murphy, J. F.
Murphy, Oscar F.
Murphy, Owen F.
Murray, J. B.
Murray, M. F., Jr.
Nash, R. J.
Nelson, J. F.
Newman, F.
Nolan, J. McM.
Norman, C. E.
North, R. W.
Nowd, E.
Nutt, J. F.
O'Brien, J. J.
O'Brien, T. A.
O'Connor, J. A.
O'Connor, J. J.
O'Donnell, T. A.
Ollweiler, J. M.
Olmstead, F. W.
Olsen, O. E.
Olsen, P. A.
Ormiston, H.
Ostrander, D. D.
O'Sullivan, J. J.
O'Toole, A. L.
Palmer, T. A.
Palmer, W. E.
Passman, F. A.
Pearsall, P. R.
Pearson, J. H.
Peirson, H. T.
Pepchinsky, S.
Peters, R. J.
Petrucelly, D.
Phelan, H. J.
Philip, P.
Phillips, J.
Picart, E. P.
Powers, E. A.
Powers, E. J.
Powers, W. L.
Price, H. J.
Prince, J. B. C.
Purcell, G. A.
Quinn, J. F.
Quinn, W.
Rae, W. A.
Reddy, T. V., Jr.
Redfield, E.
Redhead, F. H.
Reed, E. C.
Richman, R. H.
Rickard, A. W.
Riley, A. E.
Ring, F. B.
Roberts, F.
Roberts, H. L.
Roberts, T.
Roche, G. J.
Roche, J. M.
Rochford, W. J.
Rodgers, E. M.
Rogow, A. H.
Rohloff, J.
Romano, F., Jr.
Root, A. S.
Ross, J. A.
Rothwell, H. N.
Rowan, A. G.
Rowley, F. S.
Rugen, J.
Ruggiero, F. S.
Ruiz, G. M. G.
Rutter, W. F.
Ryan, L. J.
Ryan, W. E.
Samuelson, A.
Sauzade, S.
Saxton, A. O.
Sayman, A.
Scafard, G. J.
Scanlon, J.
Schaer, W. G.
Schaffer, J. M. V.
Scheller, O.
Schmidt, C. A.
Schmidt, G. W.
Schnall, A. J.
Schneider, G. T.
Schneider, W. J.
Schubert, W.
Schutte, C. F.
Schwarz, G. J.
Schweitzer, W. F.
Scott, G. E.
Scully, J. J.
Sears, W. B.
Semrad, F., Jr.
Sexton, D. S.
Sheehan, G. B.
Shellhoos, J.
Sheppard, J. A.
Simmons, E. B.
Sittig, R. H.
Skelton, E. W.
Slingo, H. J.
Smith, A. L.
Smith, H. C.
Smith, J. J., Jr.
Smith, W. W.
Solon, L.
Spinella, F.
Stadtler, W. C.
Stanley, D. C.
Stelling, J.
Sterker, G. L.
Stevenson, D., Jr.
Stone, W. B.
Strack, A. X.
Street, R. H.
Streets, C. R.
Strieby, M. E.
Strohmeyer, H. W.
Sullivan, C. A., Jr.
Sullivan, F. C.
Swanson, E. G.
Sweeney, E. V.
Sweeney, W. A.
Tappan, L. J.
Thackaberry, W. J.
Thompson, E. F.
Thompson, J. P.
Timmerman, L. S.
Tobey, H. C.
Toner, H. J.
Totans, L. T.
Totten, A. C.
Towt, E. P.
Trapp, L. J.
Trautman, A.
Trax, H. A.
Treadwell, E. W.
Turtill, F. W.
Tyson, C. J. M. D.
Uckert, K. J. H.
Upham, J. A.
Vancise, C. S.
Van Delft, G.
VanderClute, A. R.
Van Horsen, J. M.
Van Splinter, A. J.
Van Tine, C.
Van Winkle, F. H.
Venners, J. H.
Waas, J. J.
Waddington, H.
Wade, G. J.
Wade, J. C.
Walker, J.
Walker, W. J.
Wallace, W. H.
Walsh, J. J.
Walsh, W. A.
Walters, F. W.
Wanamaker, J. F.
Warnke, H. L.
Waters, P. J.
Webb, J. C.
Welstead, R. J.

To January 17, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division—(Continued)

Werdann, T. F., Jr.
Weston, D.
Wheeler, W.
Whitehouse, W. C.
Wickham, W. J.
Wild, C. A.
Williams, R. W.
Wilson, J. W.
Winton, J. A.
Wood, J. E.
Wood, M. R.
Wood, R. P. H.
Wright, H. B.
Wyneken, F. G.

Long Island Division

Adam, D., Jr.
Albin, H.
Aldrich, D. F.
Anderson, L. G.
Asklund, W. A.
Ayres, A. B. F.
Bailey, W.
Banta, V. L.
Bassler, C. H.
Baxter, I. R.
Beer, L. S.
Behnken, J. H.
Berardy, J. F.
Bertram, J. H.
Bishop, G. W., Jr.
Blydenburg, H.
Bohen, J. J.
Bournique, L.
Brengil, J. F.
Brennan, B., Jr.
Burchell, J. A.
Burgess, J. L.
Burns, F. A.
Canning, J. J.
Cannon, T. E.
Carey, G. J.
Casey, J. J.
Coates, J. A.
Coffey, R. H.
Collins, H. S.
Collins, W. R.
Conklin, A. H.
Conway, R. J.
Cook, W. L.
Coppinger, E. S.
Coppinger, S. V.
Cotter, H. F.
Crowne, I. H.
*Cullington, W. T.
Cunningham, R.
Deas, A. W., Jr.
Demers, R. W.
Dillman, H., Jr.
Dircks, H. J., Jr.
Donohue, D. J.
Dove, F. L.
Dowling, T. F.
Dugan, G. E.
Duhamel, J. L.
Duryea, L. B.
Engeman, J. C.
Ennis, J. F.
Eschholz, O. H.
Finch, W. C. A.
Fink, E. H.
Fisher, J. E.
Flynn, T. G.
Fox, A. W.
Fraker, W. V.
Frank, E.
Frey, H. C.
Fugel, A.
Gardiner, H. J.
George, W. L.
Gerckens, J. F.
Gibb, F. E.
Gibbs, H. G.
Gill, E. A.
Gilroy, T. F.
Grace, W. L.
Graham, A. J.
Green, J. A.
Haggerty, E. J.
Haggerty, J. J.
Hall, J. D.
Hallenbeck, R.
Hamm, C. F.
Hand, C. E. W.
Hansen, H.
Hartley, H. I.
Hartt, L. F.
Harvey, L. J.
Hawkins, W. R.
Hay, M. G.
Hearn, A. E.
Hofmann, W.
Holtom, F. C.
Hommick, W. F.
Hons, B. H.
Huwer, J. N.
Irwin, F. J.
Janes, E. C.
Johnson, C. B.
Johnson, E. S.
Johnson, H. P.
Jones, R.
Jordan, H. R.
Judge, H. A.
Kavanagh, J. C.
Kearney, J. C.
Keating, H. J.
Kellington, W.
Kelly, E.
Kelly, F. J.
Kelly, J. F.
Kelly, W. J.
Ketcham, R. F.
Ketcham, R. M. F.
Kimball, W. S.
Knoblauch, H. P.
Kroell, H.
Kurz, T. J.
Lafferty, L. E.
LaRoe, C. J.
Larsen, A.
Larsen, H.
Laughton, L. T.
Layburn, R. E.
Lent, E. S.
Leone, R. P.
Leufer, W. K.
Lewis, A. G.
Lewis, H. E.
Livingston, G.
Loomis, A. F.
Loonam, B. J.
Lorey, D. E.
Lynch, A. J.
Lynch, J. F.
McElvery, G. R.
McInnes, J. J.
McLaughlin, R. J.
McLean, F. E.
McNamara, J. M.
MacWhinney, J. B.
Macy, W. C.
Martin, H.
Melloh, T.
Meyer, F. H.
Meyerhoefer, E. H.
Miller, C. W., Jr.
Moesser, C.
Moir, E. A.
Moller, F. A.

* Priv. William T. Cullington of Brooklyn killed in a motor truck accident in France

To January 17, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Long Island Division—(Continued)

Moore, L. J.
Morgan, J. J.
Mortensen, C. O.
Murphy, J. T.
Murray, H.
Murray, J. J.
Murray, S. W.
Murtagh, W. J.
Nash, M. J.
Navrot, J.
Neary, J. P.
Nelson, C. E.
Neville, J. A.
Neville, J. J.
Newbatt, A. C.
Noble, H. W.
O'Brien, J. T.
O'Connor, T. H.
O'Grady, M. J.
Olsen, R. J.
Orgill, J. C.
Overington, C. H.
Pahlow, E. W.
Paul, C. F.
Pearsall, F. E.
Petersen, H. E.
Peterson, E. O.
Phelps, A. E.
Potts, B. O.
Purcell, E. D.
Purple, J. C.
Rasmusen, W.
Rehkopf, C.
Reynolds, E.
Rhoads, B. K.
Rhodes, F. S.
Rogerson, R. P.
Saunders, O. E., Jr.
Schaer, W.
Schmitt, J. H.
Scholl, H. W.
Schumacher, W.
Schwarze, F. C. J.
Schwer, W. J.
Seelig, F.
Sendall, G. T.
Sexton, L. S.
Shakeshaft, R. M.
Shearer, H. H.
Skoglund, J. A.
Smalley, H. A.
Smith, D. N., Jr.
Smith, F. C.
Smith, L. P.
Smith, P. W.
Stack, E. A.
Steed, R. L.
Stevenson, L. J.
Sullivan, E. J.
Sutter, F.
Sykes, F. S.
Syversen, J. S.
Tellefsen, G. A.
Thompson, A. M.
Thompson, J. E.
Tomlinson, J. H.
Toomey, M. J.
Topping, C. E.
Towle, W. J.
Traver, W. F.
Trzaska, C. H.
Turin, E. P.
Van Beuren, C. V.
Van Cleef, J.
Vroman, C. H.
Walker, J. T.
Walsh, J. J.
Walsh, J. R.
Webbe, H. W.
Wellner, C. P.
West, J. W.
Weston, W. W.
White, C. A.
Whyte, J. P.
Wigmore, F.
Winning, A.
Wolfe, A. A.
Woolley, C. C.
Young, J. R.
Zimmeli, E. M.

New Jersey Division

Aleman, J.
Anderson, H.
Archer, W. D.
Arthurs, W. H.
Atno, W. E.
Barr, A. W.
Battersby, A.
Beasty, T.
Beck, C. F.
Beekman, G.
Begley, J. F.
Behring, A.
Beinert, G. L.
Bell, H. P.
Berkeley, T. I.
Bernardini, R.
Bien, Wm. J.
Bitzig, G. F.
Bond, W. J.
Borrell, L. P.
Bowles, H. E.
Brady, C. J.
Brauwrenther, F. J.
Brehm, G. F.
Brown, J.
Buehler, E.
Burkhardt, G.
Byrne, J. L.
Carpenter, G. W.
Carstensen, H. C.
Carty, J. G.
Clair, W. B.
Coggins, D. A.
Coleman, R. E.
Connors, N. D.
Conway, C. E.
Cook, L. F.
Cooney, T. J.
Copp, F. J.
Cordasco, R.
Cox, J. D.
Coyne, J. J.
Cramer, F. D.
Cronan, F. H.
Darlington, W. W.
Darmody, A. F.
DeBaun, R. W.
Dennis, W. W.
DeRonde, E.
Donahue, J. F.
Donner, J. L.
Donovan, B. K.
Dugan, F. A.
Eastman, G. M.
Eden, W. R.
Edwards, T. M.
Egar, R.
Ehlert, W. F.
Ekdahl, E.
Ellis, J. J.
Emmons, W. S.
Fay, H. H.
Feaster, A. J.
Felsman, R. J.
Fennessey, J. A.
Fitzpatrick, G. T.
Forsythe, E. V.
Fraser, A.
Freeman, H.
Frey, J. R.
Gaffeney, L. E.
Gifford, H. A. K.

To January 17, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

New Jersey Division—(Continued)

Gill, D.
Gillen, S. M.
Gorton, T. I.
Gray, J. L.
Groves, J.
Halpin, T.
Hankinson, C. R.
Hanks, T. J.
Hansen, A. O. W.
Hansen, R.
Hartman, F. D.
Haufler, F. W.
Henderson, M. P.
Henry, C. J.
Henry, R. R.
Hewson, T.
Higgins, J. L.
Hompesch, L. A.
Hopper, W. B.
Hornlein, F.
Irwin, W.
Jelene, G. P.
Jenkins, H.
Joyce, M. E.
Joyce, W. T.
Kerr, R. S.
King, M.
Kitchell, R. E.
Knopfe, P.
Laing, C.
LaVoie, J. W.
Leimer, J. B.
Lewis, W. S.
Lintott, G. A.
Loftus, G.
Lonergan, J. S.
Long, C. G.
Lutz, H. J.
Lynch, J. J.
McBride, J. J.
McBride, T. J.
McCartan, C. F.
McClure, J.
McCue, C. A.
McNamara, C. T.
McNamara, M.
Mackey, W. H.
Marinelli, J.
Marshall, C.
Martin, P. J.
Mead, J.
Mead, W.
Merkel, R. B.
Miller, J.
Mittelsdorf, D. C.
Monahan, H. F.
Mooney, W. J.
Morhart, J. A.
Morris, M. H.
Morrison, J. P.
Morrow, W. V.
Muldoon, H.
Mulroney, H. J.
Napolitano, P.
Naylon, H. E.
Nickerson, A. T.
Noll, J. A.
O'Halloran, T. J.
Oliver, F. M.
Oliver, H.
Owens, B. J., Jr.
Pantaenius, H. A.
Patterson, C. S.
Patterson, E. J.
Peterman, E. P.
Petry, P. A.
Peyton, J. A.
Phelps, C. F.
Pope, H. M.
Quinby, E. W.
Racicot, F. A.
Radcliff, R. L.
Robins, H. C.
Ryan, P. J.
Sarsfield, L.
Schaeffer, G. W.
Schulthess, A. E.
Scudder, C. A.
Search, F. G.
Sefcik, J.
Seikel, H.
Sherrerd, M. R.
Shillinger, H. E.
Slagle, J. H.
Slater, H.
Smith, A. N.
Smith, C. F.
Smith, J.
Speicher, W. M.
Spillane, J. F.
Stanton, L. E.
Stewart, G. W.
Sullivan, J. T.
Sweeney, E. F.
Taylor, E. W.
Thomas, J. L.
Thompson, R.
Thornton, E. E.
Trainor, E. O.
Uhrig, H. E.
Van Zee, C. W.
Venderhoff, C. J.
Walker, W. H. C.
Walsh, J. E.
Walter, E. H.
Warburton, W. E.
Weber, A. W.
Webster, C. S.
Werner, J.
White, R. J.
Wickham, H. E.
Wilson, J. A.
Wilson, W.
Wilson, W. P.
Wolthers, J.
Woods, A. A.
Yantz, H. P.

Hudson Division

Baer, J. T.
Baxter, G. A.
Bigley, A. A.
Boyle, J. J.
Burns, E. M.
Butler, C. E.
Clerk, E. B.
Coffey, J. S.
Colloton, J. F.
Crannell, H.
Daly, H. J.
Davis, G. I.
Dawe, R. C.
Decker, H. T.
De Freest, H.
Donnelly, G. C.
Dooley, B. J.
Dwyer, M. A.
Dyer, R. G.
Feagles, C. F.
Fischle, C. R.
Fredenburgh, P. H.
Fuller, J.
Gorman, E. J.
Greenwood, R.
Hamm, C. C.
Harper, E. W.
Harrison, W. B.
Hoyle, G.
Kahnle, G. C.
Lape, O. P.
Leonard, J. W.
Loughlin, W. J.
McDowell, F. J.
McKenna, G.
Malone, F. E.

To January 17, 1918

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EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Hudson Division—(Continued)

Marenus, L. M.
Martin, A. W.
Nason, J. S.
Nyland, W. E.
Osborne, S.
Purcell, F. L.
Rand, W.
Taylor, W. A.
Thornton, J. T.
Tiffany, S. D.
Tongue, W. N.
Townsend, G. F.
Washburn, G. F.
White, P. J.

Central Division

Ayers, R. E.
Bedford, E. F.
Bidwell, W. J.
Bisonette, J. E.
Brady, G. L.
Brady, S.
Burbidge, C. B.
Burgess, F.
Carpenter, D. D.
Carpenter, R. S.
Clary, J. A.
Coren, B. F.
Coyle, H. J.
Cummings, G. I.
Dehm, A. A.
Eagan, H. E.
Fay, F. P.
Fleming, W. C.
Flynn, L. S.
Fullam, J. E.
Gaylord, L. J.
Gearn, G. R.
Goddard, G. H.
Grant, J. C.
Hamilton, W. J.
Harris, C. S.
Hayes, F. L.
Helfert, J. F.
Hillman, G. A.
Horr, T. P.
Hoskins, F. I. J.
Jones, F. H.
Kennedy, W. J.
King, R.
Knapp, C. L.
Lewis, W. R.
McKinley, P. K.
McLean, E. D.
Mahoney, T. J.
Messe, A.
Moran, J. P.
Mott, J.
Nelson, A. R.
O'Driscoll, W. J.
Oliver, F. K.
Paige, M. S.
Pierotti, L. L.
Pipher, O. A.
Rogers, F. P.
Rohman, H. H.
Rose, F. W.
Sanford, H. C.
Sanford, R. E.
Shields, J. E.
Stewart, J. K.
Stone, D. A.
Stryker, H. J.
Thornton, M. M.
Van Dewalker, W. R
Wallace, H.
Ward, R. R.
Watson, H.
Willis, C. E.

Western Division

Ahern, J. L.
Anderson, G. A.
Armstrong, H. R.
Baker, W. H.
Banks, D. E.
Becker, L. C.
Blythe, J. W.
Brabant, H. E.
Brown, W. E.
Bruce, C. L.
Bruzzese, F. S.
Burdick, W. E.
Burke, H. C.
Burnett, C. E.
Carver, A. J.
Clarke, H. M.
Corwin, G. H.
Courtney, E. M.
Danner, C. F.
Dengler, E. R.
FitzGibbon, J. C.
Gaylord, C. W.
Getter, W.
Green, J. E.
Guiette, H. S.
Harris, S. N.
Heider, E. M.
Hennessey, C. M.
Inglis, W., Jr.
Irwin, E. J.
Kurtzman, H. J.
Lohouse, G. F.
Long, W. W.
McGee, G. W.
McLeod, A. J.
McNally, C. P.
MacLowry, J. F., Jr.
Merry, J., Jr.
Meyer, N. A.
Minshull, W. H.
Mole, J. A.
Morrison, J. C.
Mulholland, O. W.
Mullaney, J. J.
Oates, R. E.
Parker, S. W.
Persons, H. L.
Riexinger, G. A.
Rimmer, W. J.
Roth, W. J.
Schopf, R. P.
Scott, F.
Shaffer, H. L.
Shourds, F. A.
Shuart, K. P.
Simes, F. L.
Smith, C. N.
Smith, E. F.
Smith, R. F.
Spruance, W. A.
Thomas, C. E.
Tierney, M. J.
Weir, A. J.
Wells, L. G.
White, G. R.
Wierzbowski, A. J.
Wiggins, H. D.
Witherell, C. A.
Yagle, F.

To January 17, 1918

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How the Hudson "Hustlers" Handled Their First Million Dollar Job

By A. B. Sterns, Copy Department

One of the loading pots on the line. This picture shows joint use construction with Electric Light Company. At this particular location sleet broke down the open wires in 1915 and 1916. The picture was taken during the progress of a sleet storm in January, 1918, but the cable withstood the attack successfully. Three more loading pots will later be placed on this fixture

THIS is a story of a winning fight against time, temperature, transportation problems and construction difficulties—a story of how telephone men put through another big job with a steady grin and an unflagging spirit of willing service.

Extension of the New York to Albany toll cable, aerially from Beacon to Catskill, was the job. In 1916 the cable was carried underground from New York to Tarrytown, with a branch under the Hudson River from Tarrytown to Nyack, and aerially from Tarrytown to Beacon. On January 5, 1917, the order was given to the Hudson Division Plant organization to extend the cable from Beacon to Catskill.

The Hudson Hustlers

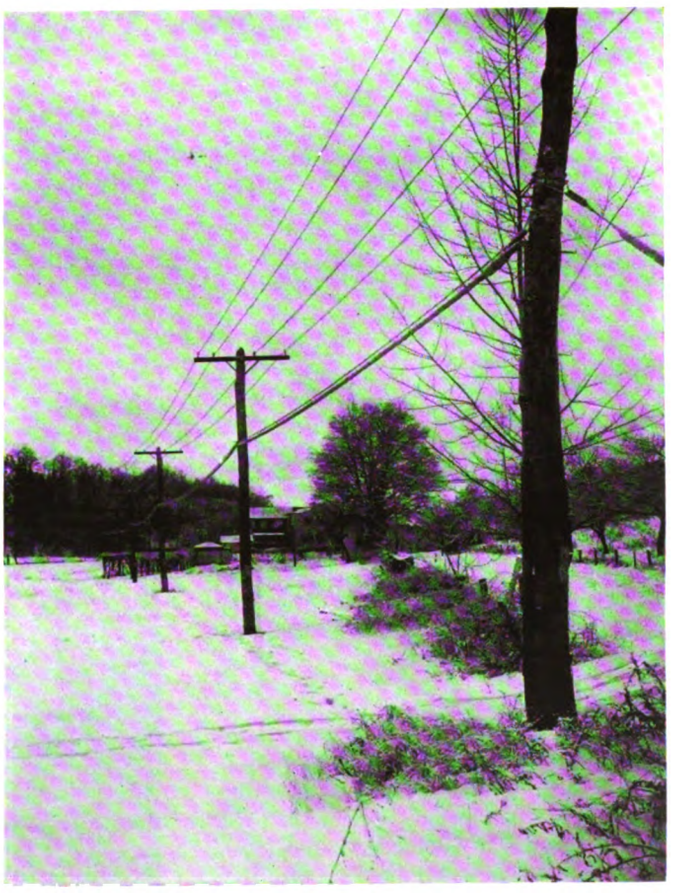
AND on that day the fight began. E. H. Greenleaf, division superintendent of construction, who had charge of the building of the line from Croton to Beacon, received the "go ahead" order from C. P. Cooper, division plant superintendent. "Can you do it in the time set?" "Can we?" replied Greenleaf. "Why, the 'H' in Hudson stands for Hustle." And then he and his men set out to prove the statement.

Their working schedule called for completion of the cable as far as Poughkeepsie by June 1; it had to be at Kingston by July 1, and at Catskill by August 1. And the men met these dates. In doing so they established new records for rapid progress, and displayed an ingenuity in overcoming obstacles, that produced numerous new devices and methods that are pretty sure to become standard for use in similar construction work in the future. By their work the Hudson Division won for themselves the name of the "Hustlers." It was their first million dollar cable job, and they made the most of the opportunity to do big work in a big way.

The Longest Large Aerial Cable in the Bell Systerm

THE New York-Albany aerial toll cable is the longest and one of the largest in the Bell System. When completed, it will be the main artery for speech between our largest city and the capital of the Empire State, and eventually will be extended to Chicago. It now provides more circuits than can be accommodated on seven of the heavy open wire long distance lines we are accustomed to see. It follows the east side of the Hudson River to a point near Poughkeepsie, where it crosses under the river, and then continues up the west side to Catskill.

From Beacon to Kingston the cable contains 212 pairs of wires and from Kingston to Catskill 206 pairs. The cable is 2⅝ inches in diameter and weighs about nine pounds to the foot. Each reel, containing from 600 to 700 feet of cable, weighed about three and one-half tons. Some of the cable was placed underground to protect it from



A section of the completed line, routed to clear possible trouble from burning buildings

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Thompson, champion ringer of the Hudson Hustlers, who placed 5,400 rings a day on the messenger wire, an average of one ring every five seconds for eight hours

damage from blasting in quarries and it was also laid under ground in places where the cable, if it had been run aerially, would have been so close to buildings as to be dangerously exposed to the hazard of fire.

About 24,000 feet of submarine cable for feeders were placed at Nyack, Highland Falls, and Newburgh. Later, another submarine feeder will be placed between Athens and Hudson. At the present time, most of the poles needed to extend the line from Catskill to Albany are in place and messenger wire has been run over them to a point only a few miles south of the State Capital.

Building this cable extension required the setting of 1,800 poles, the construction of five miles of subway, the placing and splicing of 55 miles of cable and 72 loading pots, the use of a total of 125 carloads of material and negotiating with 511 persons to secure 378 right-of-way agreements. In one case, eight heirs to a piece of property had to be found, and in securing the right of way over the various lands touched by the line, persons in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Arizona had to be reached.

An Enormous Undertaking

OSSINING and Kingston at present are the only "repeating points" on the line, although Albany eventually will be added to the list. At Kingston the space in the central office building had to be rearranged to make room for the repeater equipment. To do this, new central office power apparatus, including a 20 horsepower gas engine and generator, motor generator, charging set, and seven storage batteries, was secured and installed in the basement, the old terminal room being used to house the repeater apparatus. A new four-position toll test board will be installed at this point also, for use with toll circuits and for connection with the repeater, phantom, composite, and other equipment. This work was directed by Division Equipment Engineer Fred Arland.

A railroad man who inspected the line gave a good idea of its cost when he remarked in a surprised way that a telephone toll cable with the associated pole line and subway costs as much as a single track railroad. The average cost of each pair of wires in the completed cable between New York and Albany will be at least $12,000, and when the line is extended to Chicago, as predicted, it is estimated that, at present prices, each pair of wires will represent an outlay of approximately $70,000.

The Hudson Hustlers were well aware of the importance of their work. They were placing the first 100-mile section of a cable, which, when extended to Chicago, would represent an outlay of at least $14,000,000. And they worked with the thought that, so far as they could prevent it, this great artery of communication would never be put out of commission because of construction faults on any part of it passing through their division.

Yankee Efficiency

AND they left nothing undone. A newspaper man who visited the scene of operation was quick to appreciate the quality of work being performed. "A silvery serpent of pliable lead pipe is pushing its way up the Hudson Valley at the rate of four or five miles a day when the going is good," he wrote. "Its method and rate of travel provide an interesting exhibition of New York Telephone Company efficiency. A Ford car, two or three of 'em, in fact, a potato-bug sprayer, and a lot of Yankee labor-saving ideas figure in this move to add to the attraction of Albany, New York, and Kingston as talking points over Bell toll lines."

Cable-pulling gang—reduced to three men

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"Nimble, Real Nimble"

FROM January 5, 1917, when the work started, until that day in August when the line was put into use, the men put up a steady fight against odds. In a lecture concerning the line, which Mr. Greenleaf gave last month in Albany, Glens Falls, and Poughkeepsie, he told the story of the member of a Western Union gang working in New Jersey, who came to the breakfast table one morning wearing a beautiful black eye. "Who gave that to you?" inquired his boss. "Gave it to me!" replied the man. "Boss, no one gave it to me; I had to fight like the devil to get it." And that's the

Wire reel used to coil up open wire removed to be replaced by aerial cable on new pole line

way the Hudson Hustlers had to fight to complete the Beacon-Catskill section of the aerial cable on time.

Often they worked in the face of wind and rain and sleet and snow. There were times when the thermometer dropped so low that the zero mark became a pleasant memory. On other occasions, transportation and construction difficulties were encountered, and they were overcome. Quick thinking and ingenuity had to be employed on the spot, for in many ways the job was entirely new, and new practices had to be evolved. But through it all, sometimes working in slickers that helped to ward off the biting cold, and sometimes peeled down to the minimum prescribed by the laws of dress, the men "carried on" grimly and cheerfully. "There never was a time during the entire job when the boys failed to smile and keep plugging," says Mr. Greenleaf.

And hustle! The Scotch chauffeur of one of the Division autos, after watching the men pulling cable for some time one day, remarked, "Well, all I've got to say is, they're nimble, real nimble," and judging by the records they set up for fast work, he was right.

Starting the Work

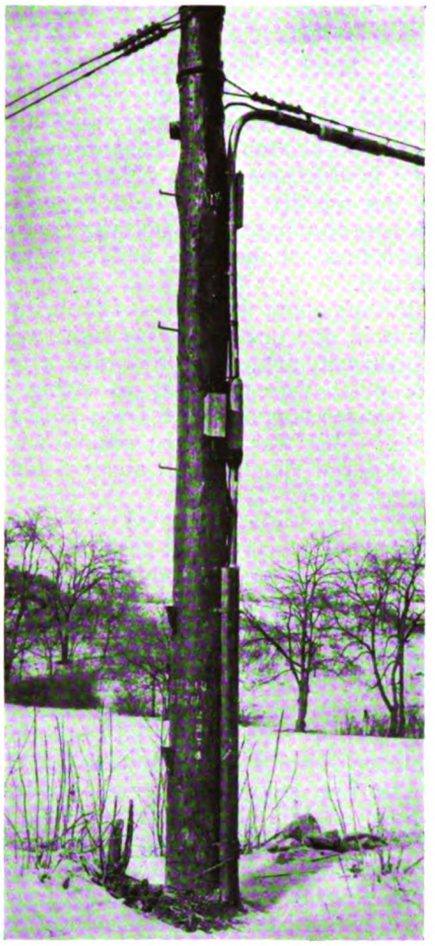
EVERYTHING had been planned as far as possible in advance, and on the day the "go ahead" order was received, Greenleaf called a conference of his supervisors in Kingston, and the next day the work started. On January 7, the first truckloads of poles arrived, and the "sticks" were delivered at the points designated by the locaters.

In locating the route of the Beacon-Catskill section, the stakes were painted red and white each alternate foot to make them visible at a greater distance, and to determine the height of the pole to be used where the ground was uneven. After the location was decided and the space between poles measured, which usually was about 100 feet, a stake was driven. This marker showed the size and class of pole to be used, the length of the section, the consecutive serial number, and the type of guy wire, if one was needed. A copy of the stake number and the length of the pole required was then furnished to the pole supplier.

The locator was the architect for the job. He was expected to anticipate and avoid conditions likely to cause future trouble, such as blasting for street and highway improvements and at quarries. Possible damage from falling trees and from fire also had to be taken into consideration. Notwithstanding the precautions to avoid trouble from any of these sources, the first cable failure was imminent just north of Wappingers Falls, where several barrels of road oil happened to be stored directly under the cable. Dry leaves that had collected around the barrels caught fire one night, and ignited the oil, but two splicers happened to come along shortly after the fire started and promptly extinguished it.

In one place a vacant house stood directly in the path which the cable should follow. It was a bad fire risk. The men either had to carry the cable across the highway and back again, place a short section underground, or demolish the house. The house was part of an abandoned mill property; the owner was willing to sell, and it came down. Some of the natives in the locality removed it for the lumber. Quite a number of sections of the line are as straight as a bird flies, but while they are always the most attractive to the eye, the lines with corners and frequent guys make the stronger job. In some cases, the men were able to carry the line by short cuts across private property, and in this way they saved two and one-half miles of cable besides the transmission involved. In money this meant a saving of approximately $38,000.

Most of the poles were set by contract, since all the "Hustlers" were needed for other work.



Vertical run down a pole where the cable is changed from aerial to underground to avoid danger from blasting, fire, et cetera

Getting Ready for the Cable

IN taking the first measurements for the amount of cable to be used, a tape was allowed to rest on the ground between the poles and was then pulled taut. Two inches were added to the total to allow for sag in each 100 foot section, six inches for the pulling hitch, and the usual two feet for splicing.

The material clerk had a list of everything needed at each pole and he went ahead of the gang with a truck, or a horse and wagon, when on private property, and left the proper amount of material at each point. This left the foremen free to supervise the

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Some of the men who worked on the job

work. Much of the material was taken directly to the job from the nearest freight station, but certain small material was assembled in the storerooms. The instructions were: "Do nothing on the job that can be done better in the storeroom, and do nothing on the poles that can be done better on the ground."

Pulling about three tons of cable into place in one operation is a sight well worth watching. The first step after the poles were up was to string a messenger support wire from pole to pole. This was a seven strand wire with aerial rings spaced about fifteen inches apart.

Putting these rings on the messenger wire was a real task, because they become easily tangled; 500,000 of them were used on the Beacon-Catskill section of the toll cable, and the champion ringer of the Hudson Hustlers proved to be a man named Thompson, who put on 5,400 in one day, which is a record. To place this number of rings means putting one on every five seconds for eight hours, which, as Mr. Greenleaf pointed out in his lecture, allows mighty little time for "rolling smokes." Strung through these rings or loops was a small thread wire, which later was permanently replaced by the cable.

Some Wire Pulling

THE Ford car went on ahead and stopped at the end of a section, where the men jacked up a rear wheel, to which was attached a collapsible reel. This reel consisted of several iron bars, projecting from the spokes of the wheel and forming a rude but effective drum. One end of the thread wire was attached to this drum and at the other end of the section of the line a heavy winch wire was fastened to the thread wire. The Ford was then started on "low," and the winch wire of a two-ton truck stationed at the other end of the reel section was pulled through the rings in quick time. The Ford then moved on to the next section, and repeated this operation. To the winch wire on this truck was attached a heavy wire fastened to the cable by a basket hitch, a woven network of wire, which spreads over about three feet of the cable and distributes the strain of the pull.

The cable reel was set up on jacks and a shaft at the opposite end of the section, and a lineman equipped with a potato-bug sprayer filled with light oil, stood beside the reel. A whistle was blown; and with gasoline for power and floor oil to grease the ways, the big cable slipped along through the loops at a steady clip until the end was pulled through at the point where the truck was stationed. The potato bug sprayer kept spraying all the time the cable was moving, for without good lubrication the friction on the cable as it moved would have retarded progress considerably.

Once a section of cable was hauled through the rings, the two-ton truck pulled the wire and cable through from the opposite direction, as soon as the Ford had gone ahead and pulled through the winch wire. After this was done, the big truck was shoved forward two sections to repeat the pulling operation, the crew in charge of the cable reels working in between the "thread-pulling" Ford and the truck operators. Referring to the cable-pulling work of the Hudson Hustlers, one writer made this comment: "It is a marvel of efficiency only to be likened to packing house methods. At that, the Bell force goes the meat packers one better, as they do not lose a single grunt or squeal. The entire job is moved by whistles, the same as men are moved in dashes from the trenches on the French front. Not an order is yelled, each unit working in silence and pushing ahead without loss of energy or time in talk."

Potato Bug Sprayers and Ford Machines

IN the foregoing description, two points deserve particular attention —the collapsible frame on the wheel of the Ford and the potato-bug sprayer. The frame, which can be opened and shut like an umbrella, was devised "on the job," and has been patented. One of the Hustlers, talking about the job the other day, said that its funniest feature was the rear wheel of the Ford reared up in the air like the leg a horse is about to use to kick with. The thing wound up the wire with a steady chug-chug that had all the air of a person insisting that he was for business, first, last, and all the time. The toughest thing about the job, everyone who participated in it agrees, was the weather.

The potato-bug sprayer replaced a paint brush as a medium for lubricating the cable as it slipped through the pulleys. Prior to its use the cable, weighing 900 pounds to the section, in passing over the rings, started the entire line to "chattering," and the men frequently had to stop operations for fear of breaking something. Then came the idea of the potato-bug sprayer, which lubricated the cable evenly, preventing the jerking and overturning, and speeding up the pulling.

Old Man Ingenuity

ONE of the most important parts of the work of aerial cable construction is to determine when the proper tension is in the messenger wire. If too tight, something is likely to break. There also must be a reasonable factor of safety because there always is a possibility that the cable will carry a heavy load of ice, be subjected to a sixty or seventy mile an hour wind storm, or a combination of heavy sleet and high wind. If there is too much sag in the cable, it will sway and may cause crystallization of the cable sheath at the poles.

Here was another case when Old Man Ingenuity got on the job. The Hustlers devised a scheme for testing the sag, employing for this purpose a spring scales hung upon the messenger wire, and a sliding scale attached to the spring scales. The device is illustrated. The engineers figured that when enough pressure was exerted upon the spring scales to register 160 pounds, which would cause the sliding

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scale to read 9⅝ inches, there would be a 21-inch sag to the mid-section of the cable when placed on poles 100 feet apart. The readings, of course, varied for the different span lengths, and a table showing these variations was secured for future use. Some of the construction men doubted that the strand was being pulled tight enough, even after the spring scale tests had been made, and borrowed 90 ten-pound window weights, which they hung on the messenger wire, about a foot apart in one section as a practical demonstration of how the cable would look after it was in place.

Smashing the Records in Cable Pulling

WHEN the pulling began, Olfson, the official "jacker-up" for the cable reels, started a strong rivalry between his men and the gang pulling the cable. The latter tried daily to "put it over" on Olfson by hauling in the cable faster than he and his two men could jack up the reels and remove the lags. To keep ahead of the cable-pulling gang, Olfson's men had to complete their operation and move on to the next reel within ten minutes. That sounds easier than it was, for jacking up a 3½-ton reel, removing the lags and laying out the end, and getting to the next reel more than 200 yards away, all in 600 seconds, requires exceptionally fast work. But Olfson did it and claims that the cable-pullers never caught him. Ask the latter about it, and they will tell you that one day they did catch Olfson. Anyway, Olfson's pet remark to the cable-pullers when the men finished work at night, and when they started each morning was, "Who told you fellows you could pull cable? You're slower than molasses." And then the good-natured competition was resumed with such results that cable-pulling records fell by the wayside.

Putting $45,000 a Day into the Air

ONE fundamental of the gang organization was to keep the men and equipment moving in one direction without retracing their steps and with the exception of the two Ford cars, this plan was carried out faithfully. One of the cars was used to return after the pull had been made, to get the "jacks" on which the cable reels were set up, and the other was used to pull out the leader wire and pull in the heavy line attached to a winch on a truck.

How efficiency was gained as the work progressed is illustrated by the gradual cutting down of the size of the gang working at each reel. Several men did this work when the job started, but the supervisors decided that this organization could be bettered, and worked out a definite plan that first cut the size of the reel gang to three, and then to one man.

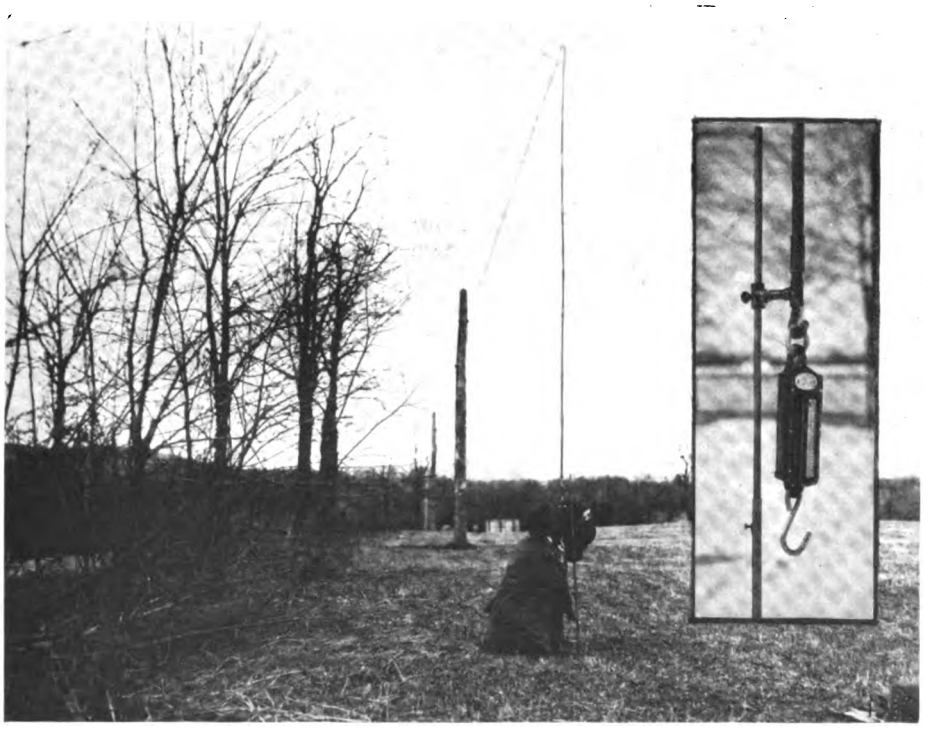
Based upon the value of the cable being strung from pole to pole, "Coal Oil Johnny" in his palmiest days of private trains and yachts did not begin to get rid of money as fast as did the Hudson cable pullers. When the going was good they put $45,000 a day into the air on telephone poles. On May 25, there happened to be enough reels accumulated to provide a full day's pulling, and the men put up forty-one reels, or 27,500 feet, of cable. On June 28, they placed forty-six reels or a total of 28,400 feet. During the only four days when sufficient cable had accumulated to look like a day's work to Drum's men, they placed an average of thirty-nine reels a day, or about five miles of cable.

The Finishing Touches

LOADING pots containing coils which reinforce the speech-carrying electric current, were placed on the line at intervals of 6,100 feet, and in a new way that is illustrated, but not described. The testing of the sections spliced to loading coils was very complicated. It required four hours' work at a comptometer to calculate the best arrangement of pairs of wires and groups of pairs, before making a splice. Something like 500 individual tests were made at each test point, and there were forty-nine of these points.

When it came to removing the open wires replaced by the cable, which is the most dangerous work done by a lineman, the Hustlers devised another scheme that materially facilitated the work. The gang went ahead and carefully dropped the wire from the poles without letting the strain come on the poles, and then a motor-driven collapsible arrangement, something like the apparatus employed with the Ford, and set up on a truck, wound up the wire.

This winding device has two parts, on each of which twenty-five wires can be wound at once. The arrangement uses a system of rope guying and also has a safety factor which causes the belt to slip, in case the wires happen to catch. Only a few miles of wire can be wound by hand in a day's work, but this machine can wind 100 miles of wire a day. In one day it wound twelve tons of wire.



Testing the tension of the messenger wire. Insert—The spring scale and sliding scale used in the tests

Gang Efficiency

THE job early attracted attention, and among the telephone officials who visited the scene of operations, were Mr. H. C. Carpenter and Mr. G. C. Allen, of our own Company; Mr. Stryker, general superintendent of plant of the Bell of Pennsylvania Company, and Mr. Cunningham of the same company; Mr. Drake of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and Mr. Bowen of Pittsburgh. The Bell of Pennsylvania was erecting a 50-mile aerial

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toll cable between Philadelphia and Atlantic City at the same time the Beacon-Catskill line was going up, which furnished interest to the gangs on both jobs. But let Mr. Greenleaf tell it as he did in his lecture:

The men who did the Beacon-Catskill job in every way upheld the individual traditions of the men of the Hudson Division not to relax any effort until the work is well done. I know all of the men, and it is a real pleasure to tell them some of the encouraging things that were said about the gang by persons accustomed to seeing big jobs.

One man, who has charge of the plant in a very large area, told me that it was a tonic for a tired mind to see the friendly spirit and team work of the gang. Another, as he left us, said that it was the best exhibition of gang efficiency he had ever seen.

A great deal of credit is due each man for what he contributed to the cheerful and courteous gang conduct that was so noticeable. This was reflected in more than one way. For instance, aside from the usual right-of-way cases, there was not a single criticism from property owners or others, that had to be adjusted along the entire route.

For the gang there should be satisfaction in knowing that they placed more maximum size cable in one day than has ever been placed before. I make the prediction that the men of the Hudson Division, if given the opportunity, will again set the example and hang a record so high that it will be beyond the reach of all contenders, and they will know that it is more than "jaw-bone" when we say that it is a habit in the Hudson to Hustle.

New Commercial Office

THE Thirteenth Local Commercial Office in the Manhattan-Bronx District was opened to the public on Wednesday, January 2, 1918. The office is located in the Company's new building, 104 Broad Street, and cares particularly for subscribers in that section of the city, south of Wall Street, who receive telephone service from the Broad, Bowling Green, Hanover, and Whitehall Central Office Districts.

Judging from the volume of business handled in this thirteenth commercial office since it was opened, it is evident that our subscribers and the public are not superstitious.

Prior to January 2, 1918, subscribers in the section referred to were cared for by the Local Commercial Office at 15 Dey Street, which office will continue to care for subscribers in the Rector, Cortlandt, Barclay, Beekman, and John Central Office Districts.

Knife a Scalper for Kaiser Bill

CAMP DEVENS, Ayer, Mass.

DEAR FRIENDS:

Just a line to thank you for the "surprise box" I received from you. I certainly enjoyed the "smokes," as they are most welcome to the soldier who smokes, and I am one that does. Incidentally, I am smoking a pipe while writing this letter and thoroughly enjoying it. It sure is some sight to look into our barracks and see the groups of soldiers sitting on their cots, discussing the events of the day, and without exception smoking. To be without smokes when one is smoke hungry is about as bad as being hungry and lacking food. The knife also will have many uses, but the best use would be as a scalper for "Kaiser Bill."

PRIVATE ARCH. W. MARTIN,

Co. F., 303rd Inf., Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass.

I have been fortunate enough to have had the luck to be in the Regiment and Battery which fired the first shot out in Camp here, and I was in the gun crew of the third piece to fire, which also was the first shot to hit the target.

PRIVATE JOHN MCGRAILL,

Battery A, 305 F. A., Camp Upton, L. I.

A Star in Cape Vincent Service Flag

"SOMEWHERE in France," Mr. J. Harry Crapotte is doing Signal Corps work in the army. Mr. Grapotte is assistant manager of the Cape Vincent Telephone

J. H. Grapotte

Company, one of our connecting companies, which is owned by his father, and was the first volunteer from that section to join this branch of the service. He enlisted on October 20, and is assigned to Company B, First Depot Battalion, Signal Corps.

"Officer 64"

"I am in a great hurry and wish to speak with Officer 64, immediately," came a woman's voice over the telephone of the Commercial Office in Montclair, N. J.

"Who?" questioned the man answering the call, looking around furtively for any policeman that might be lurking in that neighborhood.

"Officer 64," the voice repeated impatiently.

After questioning the subscriber further, it was ascertained that she wished to speak to the chief clerk, who in a previous conversation had requested her to call him on "Montclair Official 64."

The Will Finds the Way

"WHERE there is a will there is a way" is an old adage, and hard to prove in individual instances, but a story told by T. N. Roseberry, foreman of the splicers, shows that it is true. It was with ingenuity and perseverance that Mr. J. J. O'Connor, now serving in the 404th Telegraph Battalion, S. C., U. S. R., at Camp Dodge, overcame a difficult situation before he left for camp. A 1,200-foot cable had to be made up at Pearl and Wall Streets, New York, at a specific time, but owing to the water in a manhole, a delay was threatened. Mr. O'Connor, who reported for duty at 4 A. M., found that although the hole had been pumped, it still held enough water to detain the work. There was no pump at hand, and apparently no immediate way of obtaining one, but, nothing daunted, he set out to find assistance. On Broad and Pearl Streets he found a large gasoline pump belonging to the Empire City Subway Company, which he moved to the manhole in spite of the fact that two men usually are required to push such a heavy machine. His object was just as far off as before, however, for the engine had no gasoline. But his courage did not fail, even with this thwarting circumstance. Soon a Ford rolled by, which he hailed and stopped, to ask the driver for gasoline. Unfortunately, the only gasoline he had was in the tank. "If I can get the gasoline out, will you let me have it?" asked Mr. O'Connor. His request was granted and again his ingenuity came to his assistance, for with five yards of muslin he soaked up and wrung out three dippers of gasoline—enough to pump the water out of the manhole. The untiring efforts were rewarded by a successful completion of the task of laying the cable. If all Uncle Sam's boys are as persevering as this one, he will have no difficulty in routing the Germans.

"What are you knitting, my pretty maid?"
She purled, then dropt a stitch.
"A sock or a sweater, sir," she said,
"And darned if I know which!"

—*Kansas City Star.*

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Harlem Central Office Coöperates with Fire Department

ON one of the most bitter cold nights that we experienced during the Christmas holidays, December 30, 1917, a negro stableman who was taking care of the livery stable of Carey Brothers, at 124-126 East 124th Street, directly opposite the Harlem Central Office Building, decided that the best way to thaw out some harness oil was to put it on the stove. But he reckoned without his host, with the result that almost before he had time to rush from the building and give an alarm, the fire was raging throughout the building from cellar to roof.

Although five fire alarms were sounded, and the engines rushed to the scene, more than $150,000 damage was done, in addition to the burning to death of approximately one hundred and seven horses. Owing to the rapid spread of the fire toward the buildings adjoining the stable, and those in the rear of it, about one hundred families were turned out into the cold. Every available shelter in the neighborhood was filled that night with refugees.

Immediately across the street from all this hubbub and excitement, more than one hundred telephone operators were at work in the Harlem Central Office Building. Although the firemen, under the direction of Deputy Fire Chief Martin, entered the telephone building and dragged the hose to the roof, and used the fire hose located on the second and third floors of the building to play streams of water on the burning structures, there was no confusion, and not one of the girls left her post.

Those girls who were on the late shift saw one of the most spectacular fires that have occurred,—flames shooting above the tops of the buildings, and water playing upon the fire, freezing almost immediately, making a typical Jack Frost mask over the walls. On the ground and on the lower part of the houses and stable was a mass of spray which froze ten feet thick, through which a tunnel had to be chopped on the following day, in order to gain access into the house, while the hose cart looked as though it had just come back from a trip to the polar regions.

Jack Frost shows us how he can fashion an ice palace, but it required a disastrous fire to give him material in this case. The building opposite our Harlem Central Office

The firemen, however, were not in the mood to admire the scenic effect of the fire, for the cold was intense, and they had to stand guard for long hours. The street was closed to traffic. As one of them put it, "I don't know what we would do if it weren't for the New York Telephone Company. When we can't stand the cold any longer, we go into the hall of their building to get warm. They also serve coffee to us every two hours. I tell you what, I'll never forget their kindness!" It may interest Miss Roche, the chief operator, and the supervisors, who were responsible for serving soup, sandwiches, and coffee to the men, to know that the fireman expressed his appreciation to a casual passerby who had paused to make some comment on the fire.

As the entire street was closed to traffic during the early part of the morning, permission was obtained from William H. Whitey and Company, real estate agents, for the use of the vacant store at the rear of the Telephone Central Office Building, as an entrance and exit for the operators. Our Real Estate Department promptly installed temporary lighting in this store, and provided temporary stairs over the rear court parapet walls, so that this store could be more readily used.

This was a more convenient, but less exciting way of making an entrance than that used by the early morning operators, who were assisted over a high brick wall in the rear

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of the fire house by means of ladders, walked along the coping of the wall, jumped down about four feet to the roof of an old shed, and then went down another ladder to the rear of the telephone building. Even then, all obstacles were not surmounted, for, in order to get inside they had to climb through a window! However, as everyone does not enjoy outdoor sports of this kind, the other operators were probably relieved at not having to take such a perilous trip before beginning their regular work for the day.

Owing to the bursting of several hose lines in front of the telephone building, considerable water worked its way into the basement through the coal hole and sidewalk trap doors, causing a flood of about four inches of water. A three-inch hand suction pump of the Plant Department, which was on the premises, was put into service, and porters were called from nearby buildings to work in relays pumping the water from the basement. This prevented any serious damage.

Battalion Chief Griffith, of the Fire Department, requested Mr. C. Martin, of the Real Estate Department, to express to the employees and the Telephone Company the appreciation of the Fire Department for the assistance and coöperation which they rendered during this fire.

Team Work Restores Fire Damage in Record Time

Coöperation

It ain't the guns nor armament
Nor funds that they can pay,
But the close coöperation
That makes them win the day.

It ain't the individuals
Nor the army as a whole,
But the everlastin' teamwork
Of every bloomin' soul. —*Kipling.*

FIRE and water, ice and cold, worked havoc in the Williamsbridge Central Office on the evening of December 31, shortly after midnight. It was the coldest night on record, when the mercury lost itself somewhere between ten and twenty degrees below zero, and when it felt like fifty degrees below to the firemen and repairmen who battled with the fire and damage.

Three fires had already been reported in that vicinity, when just about twelve o'clock, the night chief operator, Miss Annie Leibrock, turned in a fourth alarm for an excited subscriber who had neglected to give any address. The location was hurriedly found from the Information Bureau, the Fire Chief notified, and apparently all was quieted down for the night. Leaving Miss Dora S. Ehrenfeld in charge of the switchboard, Miss Leibrock seized this opportunity to go to the relief rooms on the floor above, but on opening the door to the hall, she was stayed by an immense volume of smoke fanned in her face. Instead of flying for safety, she quickly closed the door and returned to the switchboard, where hundreds of steady lights began to dance in weird and grotesque fashion. She saw by these ominous flashes that there was little time to waste before the entire system would be cut off, and after hastily reporting the fire to the Fire Department, she called the night operator of Kingsbridge, requesting her to notify the Manager and the Wire Chief. At this moment all of the central office equipment became out of order, including the magneto emergency instrument.

Quick Work

THE firemen arrived very soon, and in response to their summons Miss Leibrock ran downstairs, opened the door and admitted them to the building. The firemen ordered the operators to leave the building, but they refused to do so until they had covered the board with tarpaulin. The fire was discovered to be in the basement under the Bronx Borough Bank, which occupies the front of the building in which the Williamsbridge Central Office is located. It was extinguished with little difficulty, but considerable damage was caused by the burning of the sheathing on the seven cables connecting the Exchange with the underground system.

The Emergency Bureau of the Company was the first to receive the news that the trunk cables and the entire Williamsbridge Exchange were disconnected. Mr. E. Kent, district plant supervisor, was called and the facts of the case were laid before him. He immediately telephoned Supervisor Rockfold to proceed to the Exchange and make an examination. Splicing Supervisor Ollweiler was requested to call out a few splicers and send them to the Exchange, and Supervisor Herbert of the Bronx received the order to get a gang of men to the Claremont Park yard to procure new cable. The wheels of repair were immediately set in action, and in the wee small hours of that bitter cold morning, men about to leave the offices for home and men dragged out of warm beds, started out bravely for the scene of action.

Emergency Methods

UTTER darkness, furnaces without fire, and a basement partly filled with ice water offered a Herculean task for the first men to arrive. It was not pleasant to have to wade in water to one's ankles, through the débris in that black cellar. They set to work without hesitation to overcome one difficulty at a time, and darkness was first dispelled by stringing on boards temporary electric lights, which gave sufficient light to start the work of restoration. The next problem was to obtain heat in a building whose temperature vied with that of the North Pole. The furnace had been flooded and the steam boiler stood in a pit filled with water. An ash can and bucket served as a pump for the night foreman, who emptied the water from the pit out of a window broken by the firemen. The men then started the fire in the steam plant, only to find that the intake pipe had become frozen, preventing the necessary flow of water to the boiler and endangering the system. This new difficulty called the ingenuity of the telephone man again into play, and the necessary water for the boiler was provided by opening a return pipe in the building and pouring water into it from a pitcher, through a funnel. These skillful emergency methods of obtaining light and heat made it possible to proceed with the investigation of the burned cables, which looked like solid steel bars in their solid coating of ice.

The damaged cable ran from the main frame, which is on the ground floor, about 100 feet from the front

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wall of the building, down to the basement, thence through a stone wall and through a fifty-foot basement to the subway pipes. Foreman Carbone and a few men of the Subway Department began at four o'clock to cut this stone wall, so as to allow for the easy running of the new cable. Measurements were taken and Supervisor Herbert and Foreman Benson were notified at the Claremont Park Supply Yard to cut the necessary lengths and bring them to the Williamsbridge Central Office.

Bringing 4,000 Wires Back Into Service

WHEN the cable arrived, shortly after seven o'clock, it was run into place, splicers were assigned to their positions, and helpers scattered along the length of the cable to carry the wire from splicer to splicer. The work was so well planned that there was no delay, and the process of throwing the wires through the new cable began with machine-like regularity. As early as nine o'clock, communication with several other offices was resumed and gradually pair after pair of wires was thrown back into service. The men were cheerful and worked at top speed in spite of the fact that they had to work in cramped and difficult positions, some with their heads hard up against the ceiling, others in small corners, to splice wires around the edges of the stone wall. At relief periods it was difficult to get a man to quit his position and give way to a man who had rested. The men worked in relays all of Monday and a new relief came on duty in the evening. On Tuesday morning all of the 4,000 wires were back into service.

The Equipment and Traffic Department coöperated in such a skillful way that the work was greatly facilitated. Every one of those 4,000 wires had to be tested in little more than twenty-four hours, and each subscriber was notified as soon as the line was connected. The men and girls of these departments not only did their share of work in their own field, but they found time to take hot coffee to the splicers in the basement. All did their part in bringing order out of chaos. Each man responsible did his share and helped the next man, so that isolated Williamsbridge was brought into communication with itself and the outside world in less than a day.

Telephone Prevents Serious Damage at Fire

THE recent cold wave which held the city in its clutches has been responsible for an extraordinary amount of damage to property and life, especially through the agency of the many fires caused by efforts to warm insufficiently-heated houses. By sending alarms, the telephone has played an extremely important part in helping the work of the Fire Department. We cannot help thinking of the time when it was necessary for a night rider to tear across-country, calling for aid, and contrasting it with conditions as they exist today, when word can be sent in a few seconds.

Recently, in Richmond Hill, a fire broke out in the middle of the night in the Richmond Hill Democratic Club, and was discovered by the accidental ringing of a call bell. It is supposed that the ringing of the bell was due to the burning off of the insulation on the wire, which caused a short circuit. The people who were asleep in the house at the time, state that they owe their lives to the telephone. Their first move upon being awakened was to rush to the telephone and call the Richmond Hill exchange, where, with the coöperation of the operator, Miss Anna M. Chester, they were able to get in touch with the Fire Department.

(Miss) HELEN M. PENDERGAST,
Chief Operator.

A "sub.," who had been away for the winter, had had his service temporarily discontinued. Upon his return he called "Central" from a neighbor's telephone and said: "Say, 'Central,' I'm home now. Will you please turn on the service again?"

MISS MARIE LOUISE COWEN, I. B.,
Medina, N. Y.

Private Branch Exchange Attendants Show Benefit of Central Office Training

THE members of the operating force under the supervision of Miss Casey at the Hotel Vanderbilt private branch exchange deserve commendation for their coolness and presence of mind when, on Saturday morning, December 29, 1917, they saved their six-position lamp switchboard from serious damage by water.

At about 9:00 o'clock a fire broke out on the second floor of the hotel, immediately above the telephone room. Shortly after the arrival of the firemen the telephone room became flooded with water, but the quick adjustment of the tarpaulin by the operating force not only saved the equipment, but permitted the attendants to continue to operate and to allay the fears of hundreds of their frantic guests.

Miss Casey and her entire force were formerly employed in the central offices of this company.

H. W. MOORE,
Traffic Inspection Dept.

Recrimination

New Era

Ting-a-ling-a-ling!

The Rev. George C. Abbitt took down the receiver and placed it to his ear.

"Is that the Dickel Liquor Company?" a woman asked.

Mr. Abbitt recognized the voice as that of one of his parishioners.

"No," he replied in stern reproof, "it is your rector."

Was there a dull thud?

No.

"Indeed," said the lady, quick as a flash, "and pray what are you doing there?"—*Rochester Union and Advertiser.*

Operator Receives Recognition from Fire Department

THE following letter was received from Mr. W. H. McBride, Fire Chief of Batavia, New York, complimenting Mrs. Harriet Biegle, night chief operator at Batavia, who showed extremely good judgment and calmness in the handling of a fire call:

Allow me to congratulate you on the splendid efficiency of your department.

On the morning of December 18, at 2:45 A. M., a lady called your office, telling the night girl that her house was on fire. In her excitement, she did not tell the girl her telephone number, her name, or the street on which she lived, but simply hung up the receiver, leaving it to the girl to figure it out for herself. With the quickness of lightning, she called our department, telling us that a fire call had just come in, but as it was on a party line we would have to wait a moment or two until she could locate the correct number.

The motor trucks in both houses were started, the men took their places on the trucks, and by the time I was dressed, your night operator had advised me of the location of the fire (I took message from telephone while in bed, "first call").

Though the fire was more than one mile from headquarters, through the quick thought of your operator, we were able to arrive quickly, thus catching the fire before it had gained much headway.

She is deserving of as much praise as the firemen for putting this fire out.

Respectfully yours,
W. H. MCBRIDE,
Chief of Fire Department,
Batavia, N. Y.

How Nationality Was Changed

A FELLOW crazy with the heat propounded this. Two Americans fell out of an airship; what nationality were they when they came down? We let the poor nut rave, and presently he gave us the answer. One came down a Russian, he said; the other landed on the telegraph wires and came down a Pole.—*Boston Transcript.*

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"How Doth the Little Busy Bee Improve Each Shining Hour!"

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS
Food, clothing, toys, candy, and other good cheer provided for sixty-four poor families. Two trucks were necessary to hold it all

JUST a side light on the telephone operator off duty! What do you think of a girl who cheerfully gives up her recreational time in order to bring happiness and comfort to others? It is easy enough to give one's leisure to such purposes when one has an abundance of it, but to do so when it makes up but a small part of one's day means something more. Make a canvass of the many telephone employees in the company, and you will find few who are not doing something to help relieve the stress of the present war-time—and doing it quietly, too, with no thought of self-advertisement or of desire for credit or praise.

Albany Operators Play Santa Claus

THE Albany telephone operators played Santa Claus at Christmas time to sixty-four of Albany's poor families. The Albany Main and Toll girls took care of fifty families, providing them with food, clothing, toys, et cetera, and the West operators sent Christmas dinners to fourteen families.

The girls knew the circumstances in each case, because they personally visited each family beforehand. They wanted it to be a real Christmas with no disappointments, and, when the articles were delivered, they knew that the new dress for Mary or the overcoat for John would fit. One lad expressed a wish for a new sled. He got it.

One hundred and fifty-three dollars was collected from donations and the sale of fancy articles made and given by different people. This money was used for purchasing foodstuffs, underwear, stockings, aprons, candy, toys, et cetera. Most of the articles of food and clothing were donated, however.

It was a big task and the girls worked hard. They willingly gave up their days off, and the Sunday before Christmas was spent in getting the articles ready for distribution.

Two trucks were necessary for the delivery. Each truck was accompanied by members of the committee, who had been appointed to look after the distribution.

Judging from the expressions of thanks, and the joy of the children at sight of the toys, there is no doubt that Christmas was a happy day for these unfortunate families.

The baskets contained meat, potatoes, celery, onions, apples, bananas, oranges, turnips, carrots, parsnips, bread, one pound of butter, one can of soup, one pound of coffee, one can of milk, one pound of sugar, crackers, breakfast food, relish, two cans of fruit, two cans of jelly, rice, macaroni, candy and cake. In addition, each family received a large bundle of clothing and each child received several toys.

Western Soldiers Entertained By Eastern Telephone Men

THE West had a taste of Eastern hospitality recently when the employees of the New York Telephone Company of Rockland County and Tuxedo Park, in coöperation with the Nyack Y. M. C. A., gave an entertainment to the men of the 146th Field Artillery, who were in training at Camp Merritt. Several of the soldier boys declared that the people in the East seemed to go out of their way in order to make things pleasant for them here, and that they would carry to France many happy memories of their sojourn in the East. The entertainment was planned originally for the members of the 412th Telegraph Battalion, who are nearly all Bell Telephone men from the western states, but at the last moment a telephone message arrived, stating that the battalion had been quarantined because of measles. However, it was arranged that a delegation of the 146th Field Artillery be the guests of the day.

After they had been escorted by the committee from the Nyack Railroad Station to the Y. M. C. A. Hall, the soldiers visited the Nyack Telephone Building, and enjoyed the facilities for billiards, bowling, et cetera, at the Y. M. C. A. Immediately after dinner

Men of the 146th Field Artillery, U. S. A., from Camp Merritt, entertained by employees of New York Telephone Company at Nyack, December 18, 1917

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they listened to an address by Mr. F. R. Crumbie, president of the Nyack Y. M. C. A., and to a lecture on "The Telephone in the World War," by Mr. A. S. Rossborough, local manager of the New York Telephone Company. A period of social intercourse and singing followed, after which the soldier boys were escorted to the train, delighted with their reception, and with the invitation to "come again."

Glen Telephone Men Help in Coal Crisis

ANOTHER way in which some of the telephone people elected to be of service is revealed in the work of the Glen men, who gave up their New Year's holiday in order to deliver coal to people who were unable to go to the company's yards for it. The movement was voluntary on the part of the men. They donated their holiday, and the company gave the use of its automobiles so that there was no charge to the consumer for this delivery service. There were cases reported where families were entirely without fuel of any kind, and the Glen men declare that the gratitude evident in these cases was ample payment for their services.

Knitting for Soldiers

MORE than 50 per cent of the Accounting Department employees of Buffalo, N. Y., most of whom had never knitted before, volunteered to furnish seventy-one much needed sweaters to the men of Battery "C," 106th Field Artillery, located at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C. When news of their work leaked out, some of the girls in the Commercial Department also expressed a desire to help in it. In Albion, too, the men and women telephone employees have chosen this knitting for soldiers as one way of doing their bit. Already they have supplied over twenty Sammies, who have no one to knit for them, with a complete outfit, including sweater, helmet and gloves.

The knitting that is being done in these two places is an index of the attitude of the telephone employees, who have found so many ways of utilizing their spare time in doing an extra "bit" for our soldier boys.

Telephone Society of New York

Central Section

THE December meeting of the Telephone Society, Central Section, was held December 18, 1917, in the James Building, Syracuse, N. Y. It was called "Plant Night," and several contests were staged, which were very entertaining, as well as instructive.

The three plant districts of the Central Division were represented by men who had won in similar contests held at the district meetings of the Society in November.

First Aid Contest

THE first event was a "First Aid" contest. The competing teams were composed of three men from each district. These teams were given a brief description of hypothetical accidents and were then requested to demonstrate how they would proceed to care for the injured man until medical aid could be secured. In some of the demonstrations the "First Aid" kit was used, while in others the men were required to use material they had with them, such as belts and handkerchiefs. Dr. Plant and Dr. Ransom, of Syracuse, N. Y., who very kindly agreed to act as judges, complimented the men very highly on their work and awarded the contest to the team representing the Syracuse District. The team was composed of Messrs. E. G. Paul, R. L. Wicks, and F. M. Butler, repairmen. Much credit for the first aid work in the Central Division is due Mr. H. F. Slade, who in addition to his regular work has devoted a large amount of his time to this work in the field.

Cable-Splicing Contest

THE second event was a cable-splicing contest. The contestants being composed of a man representing each plant district. An eleven-pair No. 14 B terminal was to be spliced into a twenty-six-pair main cable. The cable was arranged on four short poles so as to make three sections. Above the messenger strand on three of the poles was a small cross arm used to represent a guard arm. This guard arm was made of thin wood and in front of it were the words "Safety First." Mounted back of each letter was a switchboard lamp, so wired that when the first pair of the terminal was spliced, the first letter was illuminated, and so on as each pair was spliced. When all eleven pairs were spliced the words were illuminated. When the last pair of the remaining fifteen pair was spliced it rang a vibrator bell. This contest was very close and was won by Mr. Charles Perkins (better known as "Perk"), of Syracuse, N. Y. The time of the winner was thirteen minutes, thirty seconds. The engineers at the meeting agreed not to use this time as a basis for figuring estimates and costs.

Installing Contest

THE third event was an installing contest and in this contest each plant district was represented by one man. A ringer, condenser, induction coil, and the skeleton of a desk stand were mounted on a board. It was necessary for the men to wire them up complete as a common battery individual line set. When they were finished the receiver was removed from the hook and this lighted a small lamp at the top of the board. This contest was judged on speed, accuracy, tying cords, and the making of all connections in standard manner. The contest was won by Mr. Henry Pierce, of Utica, who completed the job in eleven and one-half minutes.

There were approximately 175 in attendance at the meeting, which was very much enjoyed by all present.

An old pile of German ammunition makes a good shelter from which Canadian observers telephone reports to headquarters

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Looking Backward

A Former Operator Describes Her Thirteen Years' Experiences in Brooklyn Exchanges

By Mrs. Peter F. Mentnech

IN several issues of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW I have read with much interest articles contributed by employees long in the service, which prompts me to write of the wonderful changes and advancement made during my thirteen years of service with the Telephone Company.

I entered the service April, 1899, at Main Exchange, 16 Smith Street, where the Balch, Price & Co. Annex now stands. The name of the exchange had just been changed from "Brooklyn" to "Main."

"New operators," as they were then called, had to listen in with an experienced operator, to learn. I reported for duty while learning, from 7 P.M. to 9.30 P.M. about six weeks; salary $3.00 while learning.

The Chief Operator asked me if I had any objections to night work. I was willing to try it, much against the wishes of my folks, but I liked the work, and they consented to let me try.

About June I was assigned night duty. My people used to look at me with pity, but I thought night work was "immense," and so it was. The hours were from 7 P.M. to 7 A.M., with half an hour for lunch and two hours relief.

Brooklyn-Main in 1899

Main exchange then occupied the two upper floors of a large private house. The basement was occupied by the Wire Chief; the first floor by the Central and Traffic Departments. The switchboards, magneto system, were on the two remaining floors. On the top floor there were about twenty-two subscriber positions and eight or ten circuit positions, as they were then called. The Manager's and Chief Operator's desks were in the center of the room; also one Monitor and one Information Clerk's desk.

On the second floor there were seven subscriber positions and about twelve or fifteen toll positions. The Operators' quarters were on the second floor, in the back.

There were very few trunks to Long Island for incoming or outgoing business, and a great many of the Long Island exchanges had to be called over them. It was the same way with Jersey, I think. I remember pretty well there were four trunks to Jersey City and two to Newark for incoming and outgoing business, and calls for other points in Jersey had to be completed over those trunks. When New York wanted Long Island, the call was made over the Main circuit for Long Island, and the circuit operator put up Toll Board.

There was no subscribers' multiple downstairs; numbers had to be called over the circuit upstairs. The operator gave her exchange calling as Annex. The highest number in multiple was 2999. There were just sixty automatic pay stations, 2100 to 2159. There were seven outgoing circuits, five to New York and two for Brooklyn.

New York circuits were Broad, John, Cortlandt, Franklin and Spring; Brooklyn circuits were Williamsburg and Greenpoint. There were ring down trunks for the rest of New York and Brooklyn exchanges. The rest of New York exchanges at that time and for some time after were only six as far up as Harlem—18th Street, 38th, 79th, Columbus, Riverside, Harlem.

The incoming and outgoing business for 79th, Columbus, Riverside and Harlem was handled on less than ten trunks. If all trunks were busy, we had to borrow a trunk from one of the other exchanges.

For Brooklyn exchanges outside of Williamsburg and Greenpoint, the trunks had to be learned and memorized. There were no designation strips in multiple in those days. There were no supervisors then either.

Common Battery Introduced

About September, 1899, Mr. J. F. Mears became manager—I believe he came from Cleveland, Ohio — and then began great changes.

In November, 1899, we moved from the old exchange to 81 Willoughby Street, where everything was new, up-to date and shining. I was one of the operators on night duty when the cut over from the old magneto board to the new common battery system was made. After all was tested out O. K., the Company had a very nice supper served by Maresi in a part of the operating room.

Mr. Corrigan was wire chief assisting at the cut over, and a number of other gentlemen from the Western Electric Co., I remember. Mr. Mears, Mr. N. M. Davison, Mr. Conn, Mr. J. C. Reilly, who was general superintendent, and Mr. F. G. Southworth, traffic chief, were also present.

Main was the second common battery board in Brooklyn; Bedford was the first. Moving to the new building meant great changes—in the old building there was no night manager; any special calls were handled at night time on manager's house phone—Main 1577 was the number—and I have known Mr. Mears to be called at 2 A.M. to receive a complaint.

Mr. N. M. Davison was appointed night manager of the new exchange and he certainly turned chaos into order. His hours were from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. As I remember, he was a tireless worker, always experimenting and improving, and he succeeded in winning the good will and esteem of the force. One of the things he did was to write up a routing book for all Long Island—Jersey exchanges, and it was a life-saver, so to speak. Afterwards when I was information clerk on day work, it was the only thing available to get routing information from. It wore out about the year 1905.

Recording Circuit

About 1901 the recording circuit was cut in. Miss Molly Mahoney was the first night recording operator. I remember Mr. Davison making rapid test calls, so that she would be experienced when the circuit was to be used. I may say here that the new exchange had forty-three "A" positions, twelve of which were equipped and used for the "B" board.

I was assigned to day duty about 1902. For about a year and a half I was sometimes operator on the "A" board and sometimes on the toll board. From 1904 to 1907 I was information monitor. Main exchange then received calls for Information for all of the Brooklyn district and Long Island, from all New York and Brooklyn exchanges. A card record was used and kept in alphabetical order in a cabinet, which stood right in back of the Monitors. All new connections in Brooklyn were reported to the chief clerk who then inserted a new card in the cabinet. The cards were filed alphabetically according to name and address. For all incoming information wanted by New York and Brooklyn and Long Island for Brooklyn, Main Information desk was called, and work was handled by two information monitors until about the year 1906 when Prospect new ex-

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change opened, and then the different exchanges began to handle their own districts with the help of the daily addendum. Finally the cabinet was done away with.

Cupid Claimed Her

From 1907 to 1912 I was desk supervisor, when I resigned to be married, and I can truly say that part of my life spent in the employment of the Telephone Company I would not have changed. I look back upon it, and the people with whom I worked, with pleasant remembrances.

For me the Information and desk work was practically an education. And now I find that many little things learned in the rules of the Telephone Company often come back to me in housekeeping.

In the beginning of my article I spoke of wonderful changes made. Mostly all of those changes were made before 1906; that is, from the old magneto board, twenty-nine positions, in the three-story building, to the large eight-story building with the new common battery board, forty-three positions, and in 1912 about seventy-five "A" positions and thirty-two "B" positions, with a district area much smaller than in 1900—from the few tolls positions in the old exchange to the new twenty-four position toll board. About 1903 business grew so rapidly that North Shore, Long Island, business was handled at the toll board in the Williamsburg exchange, until the building of the new Prospect exchange in 1906, where all toll business was handled thereafter. The tandem circuits gradually worked in to make connections and work more quickly. About 1903 there were only two tandem circuits, Bath Beach and Coney Island. These are just a few changes from memory; to write them all would take pages.

Fellowship

A few final words for the rest of the girls who were on night duty during 1899 and 1900. Some of them are still in the employ of the Company, with the proud title of "Day Chief Operator" in the large exchange, and some hold very good positions in the downtown financial districts, New York City. There are still seven of us within easy reach of each other. Recently four of us were together in my home here in Ulster Heights, and during the visit we had a good talk on old times in the Telephone Company.

Finally, I was the last girl to leave the main exchange who had been in the old Main exchange on Smith St.

With best wishes to the Telephone Company and its employees, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

MRS. PETER F. MENTNECH,
(nee Kathryn F. O'Neill)
Ulster Heights, Ulster Co., N. Y.

Telephone the Best Fire Alarm

THAT telephones are more efficient fire reporters than are fire alarms is a point which has not been brought out with all the emphasis it allows. The following clipping, sent in by J. J. Brady, wire chief at Seneca Falls, shows by a plain, everyday, concrete instance, how much better it is, unless the fire is of disastrous proportions, to telephone the fire house explaining the location and nature of the fire than to run to the nearest box and turn in an alarm.

The headline of this clipping is "'George,' Fire Horse, Dies Answering Alarm." It took a real civic loss like this to emphasize the point in Seneca Falls, but other communities may take the warning and spare themselves the necessity of learning from sad experience. The story reads thus in the Geneva *Daily Times*:

Seneca Falls—Fire Chief M. E. Hanlin has issued a request to residents of the village to telephone alarm to him or to the engine houses whenever the need for the department's services are not so great that a few seconds delay will matter. Most of the alarms which are turned in could be better answered as the result of a telephone call than a fire alarm.

Shortly after noon yesterday some excited person saw smoke coming from the flooring of the Rumsey street bridge and ran two blocks away to Oak and Rumsey streets to ring in an alarm. Almost every house in the vicinity of the bridge would have afforded telephone communication with Fire Chief Hanlin. The alarm came from a box near the Gold plant and the department exerted every effort to make a prompt response with the result that over-exertion caused the death of "George," one of the No. 3 engine team. The entire department was called out and a few pails of water thrown on the bridge floor put out the fire.

If the department had received telephone advices of the exact location of the fire and its character, a few men on the No. 3 hose wagon would have made a much quicker response by way of West Bayard street. The village's telephone system covers the village much better than the fire alarm system and by telephone the fire department officials have some opportunity of knowing what apparatus is required without turning out everything in the barns.

Presence of Mind Defeats Electric Charge

AN electrician on top of a pole came in contact with a high tension wire and the heavy current was passing through his body, but his presence of mind did not desert him and he succeeded in freeing himself. The account given in the *Elmira Telegram* states that a guide wire on the pole had somehow come in contact with a charged wire, a fact which the electrician had not noticed. He stood bracing his foot on this guide wire and, reaching his hand over his head, touched the high-power wire, thus completing a circuit. The *Telegram* proceeds:

He called for help, at the same time using his brains and keeping as cool as possible under the circumstances. In a few moments he knew life might be extinct, but he persisted in exerting his muscles with all the strength he could muster. Fate was with him and he managed to free his foot from the guide wire. Instantly the circuit was broken. He was assisted from the pole and soon regained normal stability.

YOUNG WIFE (at home)—"Hello, dearest."

HUSBAND (at the office)—"Hello, who is it?"

Clipped.

Mr. Vail and "Uncle Joe" Cannon

SHORTLY after Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone "Uncle Joe" Cannon, then a young member of Congress, was approached with a proposition to invest $1,000 in the new project to talk over an ordinary wire strung on top of wooden poles. For $1,000 he was assured that he could be in on the ground floor of a great business enterprise that was destined to revolutionize methods of communication the world over.

Just a short time before that Cannon had lost a few hundred dollars in a scheme to convert brass into gold by a new chemical process. So he laughed heartily and slapped his thigh when the telephone proposition was laid before him. "I would much rather," he declared, "put my money in something more conservative. I think I'll go out to the country and buy a few bee hives."

A few days later Cannon had occasion to call at the office of a young chap named Vail, who was at the head of the railway mail service in the post office department. "Mr. Vail is not in. He has resigned his place," Mr. Cannon was informed.

"Resigned his place!" exclaimed Cannon, in amazement, for resignations from government jobs were almost unheard of.

"Yes, he's gone with this thing, invented by a man named Bell. You know—they claim they can talk between different towns over a wire. Vail invested some money in it and is going to make that his business."

"Well, it's too bad," said Cannon. "I always liked Vail. They tried to get me for a sucker, I'm sorry it should have been a nice chap like Vail."

Cannon never saw Vail again until last winter when he attended a big dinner at the National Geographical Society in Washington. The guests all around the table placed receivers to their ears and heard the roar of the Pacific Ocean at San Francisco. Right near Cannon sat Theodore N. Vail, the head of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

"Blamed if it ain't a funny little world," remarked "Uncle Joe."

Champaign (Ill.) Gazette.

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Organization Changes

Department of Buildings and Supplies

W. M. Van Deusen, appointed supervisor of motor vehicles, reporting to the superintendent of buildings and supplies.

John McLaughlin, reporting to Mr. Van Deusen, engaged in work relating to operation of the Long Island City shop and to the garages and shops operated elsewhere by the Company.

F. B. Schrader, engaged in special study work of reporting the use and standardization of motor vehicle equipment, to Mr. Van Deusen.

Traffic Department

Various

C. W. Little, district traffic chief, Rochester District, assigned to the Buffalo District, Western Division.

L. M. Lynch, district traffic manager, Eastern District, Westchester Division, appointed district traffic chief, Rochester District, Western Division.

H. J. Schroll, assistant traffic chief, Rochester District, appointed traffic chief, Buffalo Suburban District, Western Division.

Ernest B. Russell, assistant traffic manager, Manhattan-Bronx Division, appointed district traffic chief of the Southern District, Hudson Division.

C. W. Keegan, assistant traffic manager, North Brooklyn District, Long Island Division, appointed traffic manager, Eastern District, Westchester Division.

A. E. Barrett, chief clerk, New Jersey Division, appointed supervisor of routines, reporting to the supervisor of traffic.

F. E. Martin, chief clerk, Western Division, transferred as chief clerk, New Jersey Division.

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Lillian Brown, senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed supervisor.

Miss Della Fagan, assistant chief operator, Bryant, appointed chief operator, Intervale.

Miss Nellie Farrell, assistant chief operator, Melrose, appointed chief operator.

Miss Adelaide Fyfe, evening supervisor, Melrose, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Margaret B. Glennan, senior operator, Franklin, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary G. Hannon, senior operator, Melrose, appointed supervisor.

Miss Nora M. Hogan, evening senior operator, Orchard, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret A. Houghey, evening senior operator, Riverside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Anna D. Langdon, assistant chief operator, Greeley, appointed chief operator.

Miss Kathryn Lynch, assistant chief operator, Bryant, appointed chief operator.

Miss Emily C. Phelan, night senior operator, St. Nicholas, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Irene V. Swike, senior operator, Vanderbilt, appointed supervisor.

Miss Gertrude Waxon, senior operator, Columbus, appointed supervisor.

Miss Louise F. Wiljes, chief clerk, Tremont, appointed supervisor.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

A. E. Barrett, chief clerk, New Jersey Division, appointed supervisor of routines, reporting to supervisor of traffic.

Miss Winifred Walsh, information operator, Englewood, appointed supervisor, Camp Merritt.

Miss Susie Wallich, operator, Union, appointed chief operator, Dumont.

Miss Elizabeth Conlon, night operator, Leonia, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Elizabeth Morris, information operator, Asbury Park, appointed supervisor.

Plant Department

Preston W. Alling, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Newark District.

Fred McCann, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Orange Sub-District.

George E. Little, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Elizabeth Sub-District.

Fred W. Kielt, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Passaic Sub-District.

Frank W. Boggs, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Passaic Sub-District.

Frederick Service, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Hackensack Sub-District.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary Boubal, senior operator, Astoria, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret M. Collins, evening senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret R. Feenan, evening senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Josephine Froelich, evening senior operator, Flushing, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Bertina C. Meyer, evening senior operator, South, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Madeline M. O'Rourke, evening senior operator, Williamsburg, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Josephine O'Toole, evening senior operator, Bay Ridge, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Marion F. Randazzise, senior operator, Williamsburg, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary F. Rogers, senior operator, Williamsburg, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Eva M. Reycroft, evening chief operator, Main, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Phoebe K. Tustin, supervisor, Flushing, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Mary E. Whiteley, supervisor, Main, appointed evening chief operator.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary Sullivan, appointed evening chief operator at Greenwich, Conn.

C. W. Keegan, appointed district traffic manager, Eastern District, vice L. M. Lynch, transferred to Rochester, N. Y., as district traffic chief.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary E. McGrath, operator, Hoosick Falls, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Jennie A. Kelly, evening toll operator, Saratoga, appointed night chief operator.

Milton Ketchum, traffic engineer's office, New York City, transferred as traffic inspector to division superintendent of traffic's office, Albany, N. Y.

Ernest B. Russell, assistant district traffic manager, Greeley office, New York City, transferred as district traffic chief to Kingston, N. Y.

Central Division

Traffic Department

R. M. Pitcher, traffic inspector, traffic engineer's office, New York City, transferred to Syracuse, N. Y., as assistant district traffic chief, vice M. S. Paige, assistant district traffic chief, resigned to enter military service.

Plant Department

R. L. Taynton appointed chief clerk to district plant superintendent, Syracuse, vice J. L. Mott, resigned to enter military service.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Rosa M. Frommholz, Buffalo Crescent, appointed chief operator.

Miss Elsie Gresens, Rochester Toll, appointed senior operator.

Miss Lillian Haacker, Niagara Falls, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Eunice McCarthy, Dunkirk, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Marie Neldenger, evening operator, Buffalo North, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Ruth A. Specht, Webster, appointed acting evening chief operator.

Miss Pauline M. Speyer, Buffalo North, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Elizabeth Williams, Buffalo North, evening operator, appointed evening senior operator.

F. W. Johnson, assistant traffic chief, traffic engineer's office, transferred to Rochester.

C. W. Little, district traffic chief, Rochester, transferred to Buffalo.

L. M. Lynch, district traffic chief, Westchester Division, transferred to Rochester.

J. L. Parker, district traffic chief, Buffalo, temporarily transferred to Syracuse.

F. E. Martin, district traffic chief, Buffalo Suburban District, transferred to New Jersey Division.

G. A. Morley, service inspector, Rochester, appointed assistant district traffic chief.

H. H. Mosher, assistant traffic chief, Rochester, appointed service inspector.

H. J. Schroll, assistant district traffic chief, Rochester, appointed district traffic chief, Buffalo Suburban District.

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

The Present Not a Propitious or Suitable Time for Readjusting Telephone Rates

THE Public Service Commission of Maryland, having proposed to institute hearings for the purpose of ascertaining what, if any, readjustment should be made in the rates, charges, and practices of The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City, was requested by the company to postpone the proposed hearings. Notice of such application was given to the Protective Telephone Association of Baltimore City and to the public through all the newspapers of the State, and at a public hearing held pursuant to such notice, on December 5, 1917, at which representatives of the company and of said Protective Association and other civic associations were present, the Commission decided that, from the evidence adduced by the company and by the concurrence of those present at the hearing, it appeared that as a result of the world war now in progress and the abnormal conditions resulting therefrom, the present was not a propitious or suitable time for the proposed investigation. Accordingly, hearings in the matter were postponed until business conditions were so stabilized or adjusted as to justify further prosecution of the inquiry or, in the alternative, until it should be made to appear that public convenience and necessity for such general readjustment of rates, reasonably demanded the further prosecution of the inquiry, despite the unsettled conditions resulting from the war.

Present Not the Time to Determine the Reasonableness of Rates

THE Newburyport Gas & Electric Company applied to the Board of Gas & Electric Light Commissioners of Massachusetts for authority to increase its rate for gas. It appeared that in 1910, upon complaint of the Mayor of Newburyport, the Board had reduced the company's rate from $1.40 to $1.35, and that in 1913 the company had further voluntarily reduced the price to $1.25. Owing to the abnormal costs of production arising from the war, the company asked that it now be permitted to establish a rate of $1.50.

The Board held that it was not in the public interest to attempt at present to determine in any final way the fair and reasonable price of gas in Newburyport or elsewhere, since the cost of every item entering into the construction, operation, and financing of gas plants had now reached exceptional and unprecedented levels. That when normal conditions were restored it would be possible to reach just conclusions resting on reasonable and stable grounds, but that meanwhile some relief should be granted to the company, although both consumer and stockholder must realize that in a time of great stress, when it is necessary to meet conditions for which neither are responsible, there must be sacrifice and self-denial on both sides.

Accordingly, the Board ordered that the company be permitted to charge $1.40 for gas for the duration of the war, unless meantime otherwise ordered upon complaint or petition, or upon the Board's own motion. In the opinion of the Board said increase would give the company a reasonable measure of relief which would tide it over the present emergency.

Prevention of Disastrous Competition One of the Most Important Purposes for Which Public Service Commissions Were Created

THE Oneonta Light & Power Company applied to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court by writ of certiorari to review an order of the Public Service Commission, Second District, New York, directing it to cease from transmitting and distributing electricity for lighting, heating, and power in the town of Oneonta. The Commission had issued said order on complaint of the Colliers Light, Heat & Power Company which asserted that it was operating in the territory involved, and that the Oneonta Company had no right to enter therein.

The Oneonta Company maintained before the court that the Commission had no jurisdiction over it in view of the fact that its lines in the disputed territory were constructed entirely on private property.

The court sustained the order of the Commission, holding that one of the most important purposes for which the Commission was created and given supervision of electric companies was the protection of the public from exorbitant charges, and the protection of the corporations from disastrous competition. That, moreover, the fact that the Oneonta Company's lines were constructed on private property was immaterial, since the Public Service Commissions Law gives the Commission authority over all electrical corporations, no exception being made in favor of those whose plants are located upon private property.

Competition Will Be Prohibited When the Existing Utility's Service is Adequate and its Rates Reasonable

THE California Railroad Commission has again enunciated the doctrine that competition will be prohibited when an existing utility's service is adequate and its rates reasonable, and has refused to issue a certificate of public convenience and necessity to the Santa Clara Valley Auto Line, which sought authority to operate an automobile stage service between San Francisco and Palo Alto.

In dismissing the application, the Commission stated that it would be slow to permit a competitor to enter the field where an existing utility was giving good service at reasonable rates unless the competitor could show that it was able to render materially better service or as good service at materially lower rates. The Commission said further that the traveling public would receive more reliable service at more reasonable rates from established responsible companies, who are permitted to earn a reasonable return upon their investment, than they would receive were indiscriminate competition to be permitted with a consequent weakening of the financial situation of each competitor and resulting unreliability of service.

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Commission May Fix Rates Despite Statute or Franchise Restrictions

THE Huntington Railroad Company applied to the Public Service Commission, Second District, New York, for authority to increase its passenger fares. Said company was one of numerous street railway companies throughout the state represented by the "Special Committee of the Electric Railways, New York State, on Ways and Means for Obtaining Additional Revenues," and its application to the Commission was the first in which said special committee participated. The application, although itself unopposed, was determined after an opportunity had been afforded all persons interested in similar cases to present oral arguments and briefs on the legal questions involved, and, therefore, it is expected that the decision of the Commission will serve as a precedent to be followed in all similar cases.

Commissioner Carr, writing the opinion for the Commission, states that under the provisions of Section 49, of the Public Service Commissions Law, the Commission has power after a hearing to fix and determine the rates to be charged by a street railroad company, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 181, of the Railroad Law of the State, which fixes a rate of 5 cents as the maximum to be charged within the limits of any incorporated city or village, and notwithstanding any restrictions in the franchise of a street railway company purporting to limit its fare to 5 cents within the limits of an incorporated city or village.

Further, the Commission held that it had the right either to increase such fares or to reduce them if sufficient facts were presented to justify such action. That, moreover, a street surface railroad was entitled to an increase in its maximum fares, whenever it appeared, after a hearing and investigation by the Commission, that its existing rates were insufficient to yield a reasonable average return upon the value of the property actually employed in the public service, and to provide for a reservation out of income for surplus and contingencies.

The Commission points out that franchise restrictions, contracts, or agreements as to the rates to be charged by street railroad companies are neither void from the beginning nor have perpetual force, but are voidable, either by mutual agreement between the parties, or by act of the legislature, or by action of the Public Service Commission proceeding with due regard to the prescribed circumstances under which its authority to regulate rates has been conferred.

Territorial Boundaries Essential in Telephone Business

J. O. McINTIRE and others complained to the California Railroad Commission that the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company had arbitrarily fixed certain boundary lines for its exchanges at Hanford in Kings County, and at Laton and Riverdale in Fresno County, and would not connect the lines of complainant farmers living between Hanford and Laton and Riverdale except with the exchange located in a prescribed territory.

The Commission held that the necessity inherent in the telephone business of maintaining reasonable territorial boundaries, not only for the economical distribution and maintenance of facilities, but in the interest of the service itself, was so apparent that it would hardly be questioned. That, therefore, the company was justified in drawing distinct lines between its different exchange areas and in refusing to serve a subscriber from a particular exchange when his residence or place of business was located in the area served by another exchange.

Public Utility Need Not Continue Service When the Returns Therefrom Are Insufficient to Pay the Expenses

AT a regular stockholders' meeting of the Lewisburg and Ronceverte Electric Railway Company a resolution was unanimously adopted providing for the dissolution of said corporation and for the surrender of its franchise and the sale of its assets. After the passage of said resolution, one Moore acquired some of the stock of the company and applied to the Circuit Court of Greenbrier County, West Virginia, for an injunction restraining the officers of the company from carrying out the provisions of said resolution. The Circuit Court granted the injunction, whereupon the company appealed to the Supreme Court of Appeals, which reversed the decree of the Circuit Court and dissolved the injunction, holding that the majority of the stockholders of the corporation had the uncontrollable right to manage the corporate affairs, and that, moreover, a public service corporation was under no obligation to continue the service rendered by it to the public longer than the public interests demanded such service. That whenever the returns received by the corporation for the services rendered by it were insufficient to pay the expenses of furnishing the service, there had ceased to be a public demand for the service. That to say that such a corporation must continue its operations indefinitely regardless of the consequence to its stockholders would, in effect, permit the entire exhaustion of the property by its use and would, therefore, be a taking of the private property of the company for public use without compensation.

Telephone Company May Demand Payment in Advance and May Discontinue Service for Refusal to Make Such Payment

THE Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York has unanimously affirmed the judgment of the Rensselaer County Court reversing a judgment of the City Court of Troy in favor of Evanetta Hare, a subscriber of the New York Telephone Company, who brought suit against the Company for damages for failure to furnish her telephone service and for the removal of the telephone from her premises. The action grew out of a dispute between Miss Hare and the Telephone Company as to the amount due under her contract for telephone service. This decision of the Appellate Division sustains the Company's claim that under her contract Miss Hare was compelled to pay for the service in equal installments, monthly in advance, and that her service was properly discontinued because of her failure to pay certain rental charges and tolls which were due under such interpretation of the contract.

Bookmaking By Telephone Warrants Discontinuance of Service

ON complaint of the police department of New York City that one Montario, the proprietor of a barber shop, was permitting the use of his telephone for bookmaking, the New York Telephone Company removed the telephone instrument from Montario's shop. Montario applied to the Special Term of the New York Supreme Court for a peremptory writ of mandamus to compel the company to replace the telephone, and the Court issued the writ on the ground that there was no evidence in the record to show that Montario had knowledge of the fact that the telephone was being used for illegal purposes. On appeal to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, the order granting the mandamus was reversed, the Court holding that the record showed that betting over the telephone in Montario's barber shop was carried on in his very presence and with his tacit permission and that, therefore, the company was justified in removing the telephone.

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A WAR SAVINGS STAMP bought every ten days will feed a United States Soldier who is Fighting For You

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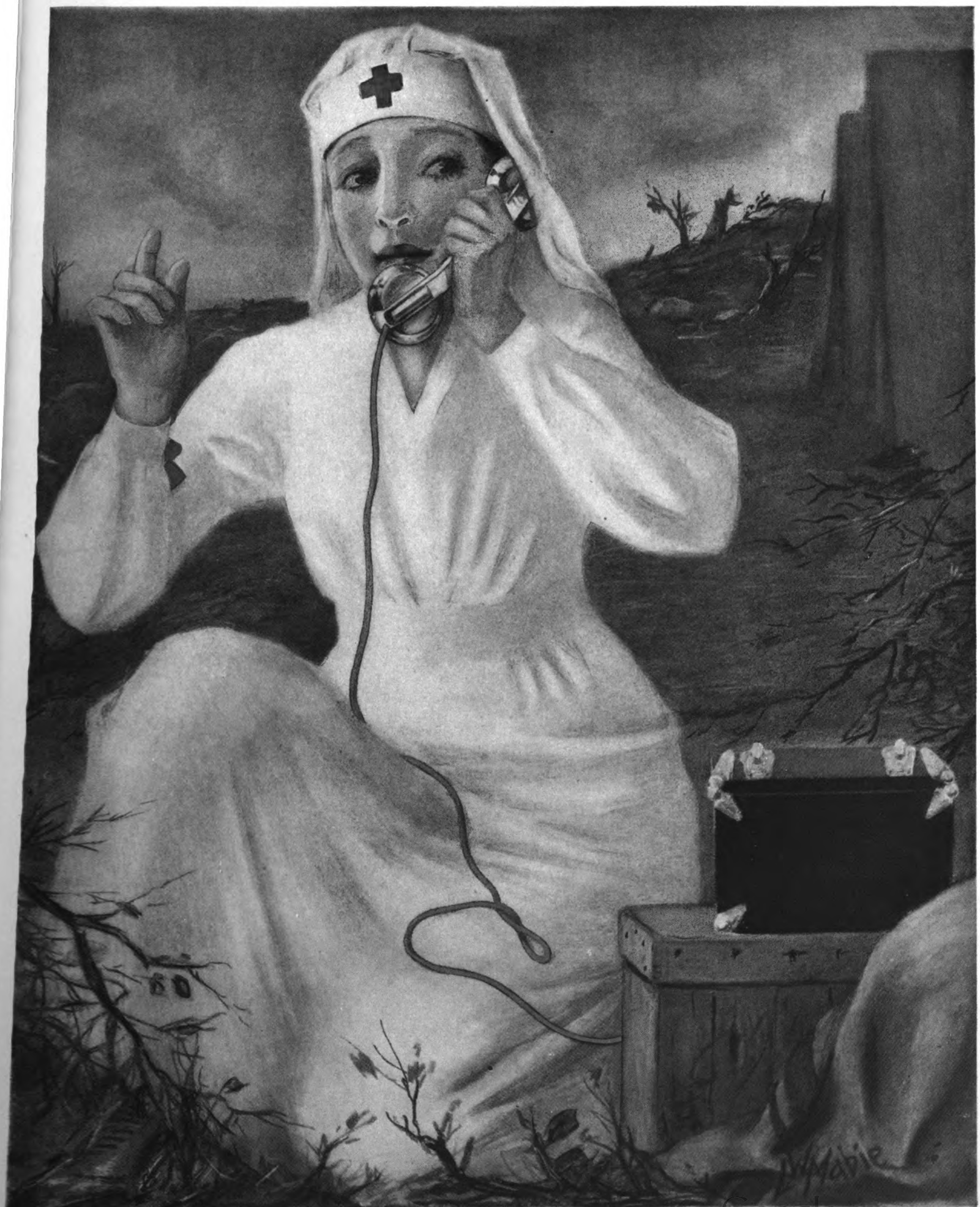
NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine place a one-cent stamp on this notice, hand same to any postal employee and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers and sailors at the front. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW



Vol. 9. No. 3

"ON THE FIELD OF MERCY"

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March, 1918

"SOLDIERS OF THE SWITCHBOARD"

Another group of operators from New York and Philadelphia who are serving in Washington. Taken at Washington College.

First Row, Left to Right: Miss Morrison, Miss Butler, Miss Gonder, Miss Malone, Miss Manz, Miss Sykes, Miss Curley, Miss Henskath, Miss Hinchcliff. Second Row, Left to Right: Miss Foley, Miss Leahy, Miss Marie Dugan, Miss Carncross, Miss Cloeren. Third Row, Left to Right: Miss Kane, Miss Schaeffer, Miss McQuiggan, Miss Cameron, Miss Schildwatcher, Miss Cunningham, Miss Gallagher, Miss Dolan, Miss Bamberg, Miss Judge, Miss Gleason. Fourth Row, Left to Right: Miss Orr, Miss Gibson, Miss Getzfread, Miss Tourtual. Fifth Row, Left to Right: Miss Quinn, Miss Lawlor, Miss Margaret Dugan, Miss Morsemiller, Miss Bolich, Miss Mahoney, Miss Lind, Miss Borneman, Miss Meisner; Sixth Row, Left to Right: Miss Lillian McCarthy, Miss Wasmuth, Miss Duffy, Miss Potter, Miss Clayton, Miss Taylor. Seventh Row, Left to Right: Miss Thomas, Miss Murphy, Miss Bellegarde, Miss Nora McCarthy, Miss Taillie.

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The TELEPHONE REVIEW
New York March 1918
Volume 9 Number 3

The TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor

Published monthly by the New York Telephone Company, U. N. BETHELL, President; WALTER BROWN, Secretary and Treasurer. Publication Office and Principal Place of Business, 15 Dey Street, New York.

VOL. IX. MARCH, 1918 No. 3

An Opportunity in the War

TO the average American citizen, man or woman, the great war has brought tremendous educational possibilities in many fields, and the one that most nearly concerns all of us is the field of investment. Never before in the history of this country has there been so carefully organized a campaign to teach the people the value of making their surplus income work for them. The two Liberty Loans already sold to the public have resulted in extraordinary benefits to people of all classes — especially in teaching them where to place their surplus income safely and how to do this by means of consistent payments at short intervals.

In other words, these Liberty Loans have educated us to capitalize our future earnings and to build far into the future with the proceeds of our efforts.

These remarks must be considered especially timely at this moment because of the recent announcement that the Government is taking steps for the sale of a third Liberty Loan, the total of which may be even larger than the aggregate of the two previous issues. With the instruction already given to the public, we have before us a most splendid opportunity for the exercise of investment sagacity combined with patriotism and thrift. It is time now to consider how much of your future income you wish to put aside in behalf of your country and yourself, and to make the necessary preliminary arrangements for the building up of a carefully invested surplus to be held intact against the inevitable rainy day.

War Savings and Thrift Stamps all the time, and Liberty Loans as they come along, provide the easiest and safest investments in the world. Take advantage of them.

Kathleen McGrath, Operator

MOST persons go through life with long-distance spectacles perched on their noses. Through these glasses they see the deeds of bravery and self-sacrifice that others have performed, and stand and marvel in a detached, impersonal state of mind. "That was an accident in a million," they say, "and lucky is the person who was there to prove his mettle." Or again they say: "In such an emergency my wits would have deserted me entirely."

Kathleen McGrath, another telephone operator heroine

The Knights of the olden days who accomplished acts of valor through sheer prowess and force of will are not the heroes of to-day. A dashing, spectacular action is not applauded unless it is in the fulfillment of a purpose. The really courageous soul is the one who faithfully performs the sordid details of an accustomed task in the face of every obstacle—even death.

In the fire at Niagara Falls on January 3, when the International Hotel burned, the telephone operator, Miss Kathleen McGrath, accomplished as much as the bravest fireman by finishing her work under tremendous odds. The mere mechanical action of connecting wires, to speak to the guests and warn them of the danger, required a faithfulness and self-control, born of love for her work, as well as love for her fellow beings.

We must take off our glasses and know that we all have the ability to make or destroy the characteristics of heroes by doing our own "job" with thoroughness and enthusiasm. Then, when the emergency arises, whether it be great or small, we shall not be found wanting.

Hospitality

LIEUT. FLANNERY, of Engine Company No. 13, New York Fire Department, personally called on one of our traffic officials to state that at an open meeting of the Fire Department, held a few days previous, a number of the members spoke of the treatment which the Company had extended to the firemen on the occasion of a fire in Houston Street, near our Spring Central Office, and that he had been delegated by the firemen to inform our Company of their appreciation and gratitude. The fire occurred on one of the bitterly cold nights in January, and, under instructions, the matron of the Spring Exchange supplied twenty gallons of strong, hot coffee and one hundred and eighty-three sandwiches to the men. Lieut. Flannery expressed a desire to meet the matron and her assistants and thank them in person, and he was taken to the lunch-room where he was given the opportunity to do this.

This was only one of several instances where consideration for the firemen led the Company to extend its hospitality to them while they were having to fight fires, day and night, during the coldest weather New York has ever known, and it was extremely gratifying, therefore, to receive a letter from Chief Kenlon to Mr. F. H. Bethell, first vice-president, which we reproduce, together with Mr. Bethell's reply:

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January 23, 1918.

Hon. Frank Bethell,
First Vice-President,
New York Telephone Co.,
15 Dey Street, City.

Dear Mr. Bethell:

I wish to express to you, and through you, to the officials and employees of the New York Telephone Company, the sincere thanks of the members of the uniformed force of the Fire Department for the kindness and consideration shown during the recent severe weather by the officials in charge of the telephone exchanges at Houston Street, in Harlem, and other places, in furnishing hot coffee and sandwiches to the half-frozen firemen working at fires in the vicinity of those exchanges.

Very sincerely yours,

JOHN KENLON,
Chief of Department.

January 24, 1918.

Mr. John Kenlon, Chief of Department,
Fire Department, City of New York,
New York.

My dear Chief:

It is with great pleasure that I have read your letter of the 23rd instant. It was presented to-day to the Employees' Benefit Committee of this Company, and will in due course be presented to our Board of Directors. We are pleased, first, because we have employees who are willing and the facilities necessary to furnish hot coffee and sandwiches to the heroic men of your Department when occasion offers. Secondly, we are pleased, naturally, because of the appreciation of what we have done, which you evidence in your letter.

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

F. H. BETHELL,
First Vice-President.

The employees who shared in this service will be glad to know how much their attention was appreciated both by the Fire Department and the Company.

Request From Camp Sherman

IN accordance with the request of Major A. E. Whitworth, Signal Reserve Corps, commanding the 403rd Telegraph Battalion, National Army, Camp Sherman, Ohio, we print the following letter, a copy of which is being sent out to the friends and relatives of men of that command, who continue to send them packages of candy, cake, and other edibles.

"For reasons stated," writes Major Whitworth, "it is desired that this practice be discontinued by those of our friends, who, though well-meaning, are ill advised as to the harmful results of this practice."

DEAR ———

Below is a copy of a notice issued by the council of National Defense:

"The Council of National Defense desires to inform the people of the country that abundant food is supplied to the soldiers and sailors in the camps and cantonments, and that the sending of food to these men by their friends and families is not in any respect necessary; that the aggregate quantity of food thus privately sent is enormous, and that much of it, having been conveyed long distances in heated express or mail cars, is more or less spoiled, and consequently injurious to the health of the men. Therefore, in the interests of the conservation of food and also the health of the men, the Council of National Defense requests that the public discontinue the sending of foodstuffs to the camps."

It has been found that the eating of foods between meals by the men has been injurious to their health as well as wasteful, and it is desired that their friends and relatives refrain from furnishing them with these packages of edibles which bring on these conditions.

Thanking you for your co-operation in this matter, and trusting that you will see it in its true light, I am

Yours sincerely,

(Signature),
1st Lieut., Sig. R. C., Adjutant.

The Voice With the Smile Wins

WE take pleasure in reproducing from the Brooklyn *Daily Eagle* the following poem, written by Edwin Carty Ranck, the distinguished dramatic editor of that newspaper. It was sent to us by Mr. Ranck, with the thought that it might interest us, and we are sure it will interest our readers also. Thus is "The Voice With the Smile Wins" winning its way as a bit of sound philosophy, and not only as a habit to be followed when using the telephone:

IT'S THE VOICE WITH THE SMILE THAT WINS

It's the voice with the smile that gains the day;
The voice with a frown can't win.
So smile at your work, and smile at your play—
Just bury your grouch and grin.

It's the voice with the smile that makes the world
More livable day by day;
For it heartens a man when his hopes are furled
And brushes the gloom away.

It's the voice with the smile that makes a man
The dearer to blood and kin;
So don't be afraid of the smiling plan—
Just throw in your clutch and grin.

There are beings who sneer at the optimist
And call him a cheerful drone;
They master the world with an iron first,
And scowl as they hold their own.

But I'll take my chance with the cheerful cuss,
Who smiles at his work or play.
Who tells you that things "might be much wuss"—
And grins when he has his say.

EDWIN CARTY RANCK.

On the Job on Time

By D. T. Lewis, Construction Department, New Jersey Division

THE importance of being on the job on time was very much in evidence on Tuesday morning, January 22, 1918. At 7 A. M. a fire was discovered in "The Martin Garage," Plainfield, N. J., by H. Swody, one of the telephone chauffeurs. The three telephone trucks used by the Construction and Installation forces in the Plainfield District were stored in this garage. If it had not been for the prompt and efficient service rendered by the telephone employees, the loss of a life would probably have resulted, and the telephone trucks and a majority of the privately owned cars would have been destroyed.

If invited to express a preference as to what he would rather be—the most "Scientific Engineer," the most illustrious "Commercial Manager," the greatest "Advertising Agent," Swody would probably say that he would rather be the best "Telephone Chauffeur."

Although not scheduled to leave the garage until 7.30, Swody, as usual, arrived shortly before 7 and started to fill the gasoline tank and radiator on his truck. He noticed a heavy smoke rising through an open trap-door to the cellar and ordered one of the men to send in an alarm for the Fire Department. He realized that it was impossible to check the fire and turned his attention to saving the telephone trucks.

The linemen in the gangs soon arrived and directed their efforts to removing the cars in the garage. Walter Thomas, of the Installation Department, experienced some difficulty in starting the installation truck, and the fire had gained considerable headway before he could get the engine started. The truck was in the far end of the garage, and he and the truck were encircled by flames and smoke when he finally brought the car out.

After the telephone trucks had been removed the telephone men together with others removed about forty cars from the lower floor of the garage.

Officer J. Conway, of the Plainfield force, was overcome by smoke and gas and fell to the floor unconscious. Linemen F. Blume and J. McIlarney carried him out and rendered first aid treatment and artificial respiration, restoring consciousness.

Mr. Martin, the proprietor of the garage, was very grateful for the excellent work performed and the assistance rendered by the telephone men.

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OPERATORS FROM BUFFALO

Front Row (left to right): Misses A. H. Luebke, Tupper operator; M. Kuester, Seneca operator; H. M. Eigenbrod, Oxford operator; K. F. Bitterman, Tupper supervisor. Second Row (left to right): Misses M. A. Mehs, Oxford operator; J. Byrne, Oxford operator; J. R. Lichtentahl, Oxford operator; E. Knoll, Tupper operator. Back row (left to right): Misses A. G. Humphrey, Oxford operator; A. Clody, Tupper operator; E. Ryan, Tupper operator. Taken on the steps of the Congressional Library in Washington.

"Soldiers *of* the Switchboard"

Operators From the New York Telephone Company Who Volunteered for Service in Washington Are Visited by *The Telephone Review*—Their Work, Recreation, and Home Life

By Kathleen Gray

WASHINGTON! What does the name mean to you? The Capitol, perhaps, or war, President Wilson, or the various activities incident to the war?

To most of us it means these things, but to our operators who volunteered their services to meet the tremendous increase of traffic in Washington it means much more besides. In after years, when they look back upon the fleet-winged hours of close association with each other in the Washington College and the Bristol School, when they feel how much richer their lives have been made by the friendships begun there, they will realize that in these gloomy war times there was a bright spot made by pleasant days of companionship. No one who has not lived with our girls in Washington, and who has not come in contact with their cheerful personalities and shared in their interests, can have an adequate idea of what this experience means to them. The girls themselves can not help talking about how much they like their rooms, how they enjoy being in Washington, where they never expected to live, and of how much they enjoy the daily companionship of so many other girls.

Historic Home Becomes Residence of Operators

IT is claimed that Washington is the most beautiful of cities, and the capital of the greatest of nations. One of its historic dwellings was the Gales Mansion, built in the early days of Washington by Mr. Gales, the editor of the *National Intelligencer*. It was a real old southern home, and was considered one of the finest manor houses round about Washington. In it the Gales, who were famous for their hospitality, entertained lavishly. One can easily picture stately minuets and elaborate Christmas festivities in the reception rooms on the first floor, which, by the way, are still very beautiful, and are furnished in the same style as in the days when General Lafayette stopped there while being entertained by the National Government.

The old Gales mansion still stands on the crest of the hill overlooking a

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Who would not like to entertain in this delightful reception room at the Bristol School, which is one of several at the disposal of our operators serving in Washington?

A glimpse into the main hall of Bristol School, where the girls congregate for mail call. A lovely setting for young faces and happy voices

magnificent lawn, additions having been made in the shape of two large wings, and modern improvements having been installed. Until recently, when it was selected by the Telephone Company as being best adapted of all available buildings for the accommodation of the out-of-town operators in Washington, it was known as Washington College, a fashionable college for young ladies.

It would be difficult to find more delightful surroundings than those in which our girls there now live, both outdoors and indoors. There is a vast lawn sloping down to the avenue, which is well shaded by fine old trees. The girls look forward to enjoying this lawn to the utmost during the spring and summer days. Squirrels romp around it, chasing each other up and down the trees and even the beautiful Kentucky Cardinal can be seen now and then, his brilliant red feathers making him visible against the white of the snow. Within doors there are all the comforts of home, and more besides, from a sun parlor and beautiful reception rooms to a delightful dining room, an auditorium, with an excellent dancing floor and pianos, and large airy bedrooms, all of which have enormous old-fashioned windows overlooking the lawn. The girls can hardly wait for spring to come, bringing with it feathery new leaves for the trees and bushes, and blossoms for the pussy willows.

A typical sleeping room in the Bristol School Dormitories

Another Fashionable School Also Occupied by Operators

TELEPHONE girls came and went, until there arrived a day when, like the old woman who lived in a shoe, Miss Mary Manz, the adopted mother of the girls, had so many children, she didn't know what to do. Her family had grown from a few girls to the large number of three hundred and fifty. Washington College was too small! Unlike the old woman, Miss Manz was equal to the situation, and set to work with the officials of the Company to solve her problem. The result was the selection of a second house for the extra girls, which was

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A "Side View" of Washington College, when the trees are in leaf and the lawns are green

abandoned later in favor of the Bristol School, in which over two hundred telephone operators are now accommodated.

One could scarcely find a greater contrast in style of building than that between the College and the Bristol School. The former is finished in white enamel throughout the entire house, and is also white outside, with old-fashioned colonial pillars across the front of the porch. The Bristol School, on the other hand, is a rambling building of red brick, with queer little turrets and corners tucked away in unexpected places. It is really three houses combined and connected by queer little balconies, and rambling staircases. As one of the girls put it, she thought at first that she never could find her way around without a guide. Like the College, Bristol School is fitted up with all modern improvements. There are suites of rooms, with connecting baths, rooms furnished in white enamel furniture and chintz curtains, rooms facing north, south, east, and west, all having an excellent outlook on Washington.

On the ground floor of the Bristol School is a series of reception rooms that have an air of aristocracy and richness all their own. They are filled with beautiful old mahogany and walnut furniture and fine reproductions of famous paintings that are in themselves an education. Crystal chandeliers hang from the ceiling, and there are dainty lace curtains on the windows and glass paneled doors that open out into a sunny conservatory, which is filled with plants of different kinds, including immense ferns, and palms that reach to the ceiling. There is also a little make-believe running brook in it, where water trickles over the stones.

As a rule, the suites of rooms in these two houses are occupied by girls from one town. In the evenings they get together and harmonize, with the aid of a mandolin. Sometimes it sounds as though they took a book of popular airs, and went right through it, omitting nothing from the "Star Spangled Banner" to "Nellie Was a Lady." It must seem strange to those who are accustomed to New York City apartments to have such large sunny rooms. There is a freedom of space in a southern house that is not to be found in the modern apartment. In the days when the College and the Bristol School were built, people did not care to cut up their homes into little rooms with tiny windows, with the result that their houses give one a feeling of openness and space that is very refreshing.

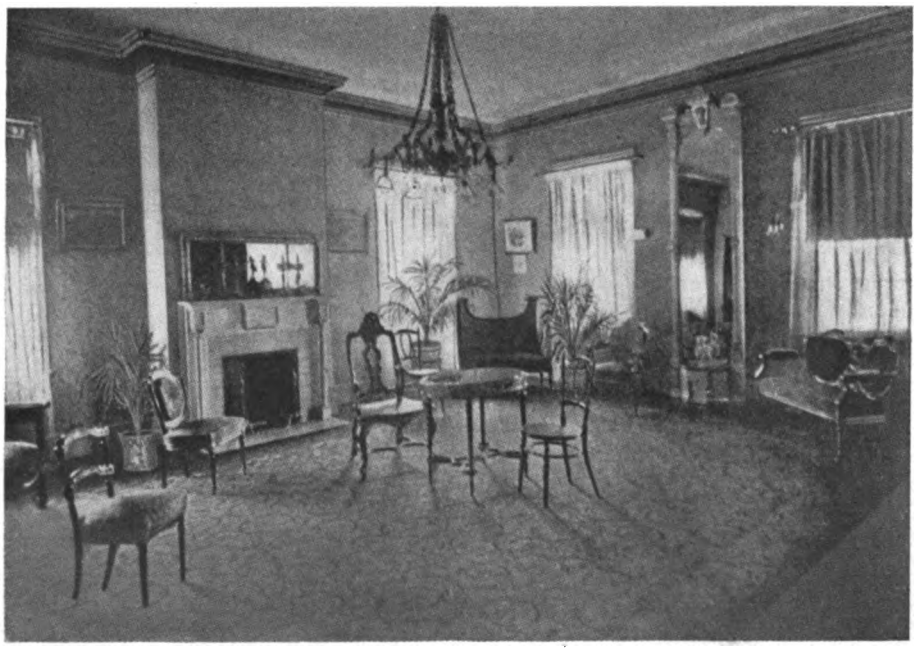
Dividing the Family

TWO days after the Bristol School was taken over by the Telephone Company, and was vacated by the scholars, the removal of some of the girls from Washington College began. This, as you may imagine, was no easy task, especially since all of the operators had adopted Miss Manz as their mother, and objected to being separated from her, even for a part of each week. Finally, however, a division was made, the New York Company girls remaining where they were, and the Long Distance girls going to the Bristol School with operators from Baltimore and Philadelphia. Eventually, Miss Lillian Scully and Miss Elizabeth Lawler, who are assisting Miss Manz, will supervise Washington College.

Our Girls

THESE lovely homes are peopled, and appropriately, too, with young girls, full of life and laughter, who have already become very fond of their Washington homes, as they call them. There one may peep behind the scenes and get acquainted with the telephone operator off duty—a phase of her life that is practically unknown to the general public.

One hears of the personality of this



The inviting Drawing Room of Washington College, where the operators may entertain each other and their guests

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individual, or of that type, but the personality of the telephone operator is to most people an unknown quantity. This seems all the more strange when one stops to realize the kind of young woman selected by the Company as best fitted for the work. Perhaps no more representative group of young American womanhood could be found than this one at Washington. Happiness seems to be bubbling out everywhere. They play whole-heartedly in play time, and work in the same way. In spite of the fact that traffic in Washington is now extremely heavy, there are no complaints, each girl taking a special pride in performing her share of the work. In fact, the take the hard work as a matter of course, for they went to Washington primarily to help, and had no illusions when they went there.

Dining Hall in Washington College awaiting the healthy appetites of the operators

"At Home"

UNLIKE most of the war workers that have increased Washington's population by 40,000, our girls are not afloat. They are never at a loss as to how to occupy their spare time. On Tuesday nights there is the "At Home," when any one who enjoys seeing girls sew should be present to see the various creations that are made with their needles, for Madame Dressmaker teaches her art to many of the girls every week. On Thursday nights, too, most of the operators are at home, for on that night there are usually "doings" of some sort or other. Sometimes there is an illustrated lecture on some topic of interest to the girls, followed by dancing and refreshments; at other times there are musicales, given by some of the girls themselves, many of whom are already accomplished musicians, while others are availing themselves of the opportunities offered for instruction in music.

With Christmas parties, masquerades, Valentine parties, and similar social activities, there is little time for loneliness. Days pass into weeks, and weeks into months in quick succession.

In fact, the girls count their time in Washington in weeks instead of months, preferring to say seventeen weeks rather than four months, because they think it sounds much longer.

Going the Rounds

WHAT do you think of a house "mother" who says good night to one hundred and fifty "children" and sees that they are all tucked in every night at a reasonable hour? Most mothers can not manage to do that with one or two children, but this one seems to have a secret way with her. As she can not be in both houses at once, there is great rivalry, and the girls seem to consider this good night a great treat. They insist that while she is at the other house, whichever it may be, she is like a stepmother. You can imagine her position! But now that Miss Scully and Miss Lawler have come to her aid, there may be a mother in each house, which will relieve the tension.

Miss Manz, however, does not attempt to awaken all her children in the morning, for that is something that only a well-regulated alarm clock can do, especially since the operators go on duty at different hours. They seem to be coming and going all day. With the ringing of the alarm clocks that have been furnished to each girl, another day begins, with breakfast served up to 9:00 A. M., and no later. There ensues a scurry for the office, a ride on the trolley after presenting one of the car tickets (which are also furnished by the Company), and each girl prepares to do her share in the Government work.

An impromptu dance in honor of "The Telephone Review." Miss Gray in the foreground

"On Duty"

IT is not necessary to speak of the importance of the operator's work, in these war times, especially. It would be enlightening, however, to accompany some of them to their central offices, North, Main, Columbia, or Franklin, in all of which the out-of-town operators are located. Main and Franklin hold the greatest number of the operators from the New York Company. It is there that one can see the growth of the nation's business over the wire, and the expert handling of Government calls.

Since the war has made Washington the scene of so many activities, it has been necessary to add to both local and toll boards. Messages are constantly flitting across the continent from Washington and to Washington, so that every one in all the offices is working at top speed and with top efficiency. Although during the past month alone Government toll traffic has increased over 10 per cent., the speed of the service has not only been maintained, but has shown improvement.

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The "War Baby"

DOWNSTAIRS is the Franklin Office, the famous "War Baby," installed in record time, to meet unusual conditions incident to the war. The "War Baby" is growing so fast, that very soon the name will seem inappropriate. It is already an extremely large child for its age, and a very interesting one at that. Like all children, it has its peculiarities, being a Multiple Answering Jack Board, instead of a Complete Multiple Board, like that in Main. It also contains a board resembling a P. B. X., which is an unusual type, and which connects the various Government departments with each other. If the Navy Department wishes to call the Ordnance Department, it does so through this board. One can tell by it the tide of the nation's business, registered constantly by the calls continually being made.

Luncheon and Washington Ice Cream

AFTER the morning's work, the girls gather in the Lunch Room, or Retiring Room, where they seem to fairly effervesce with good spirits. Now for a secret about these two rooms. In the Lunch Room one can get the most delicious ice cream that ever was made. One could almost live on it. A Washingtonian who wishes to be especially nice to you offers you a dish of it that looks mountainous. Somehow or other, you manage to eat it, and even follow it up with another! There are other goodies, too, in this Lunch Room. In fact, the matron is bent on fattening up the girls and takes a special delight in tempting their appetites by setting forth a tempting array of dishes. You should taste her baked apples! She admits that she bakes a barrel of them a day, so you can see how popular they are. And as for pies!

But let us say no more, but go to the Reading and Retiring Rooms with the rest of the girls, and spend the remainder of the luncheon period with them. In the Reading Room, which closely resembles a library, is a large fireplace, in front of which the girls like to sit and read. The room is furnished in leather and mission wood, and in it there is little talking or noise. That is all reserved for the Retiring Room, where the girls who wish to chat, knit or lounge around, congregate. The floor, which is finished in hard wood, is covered with large and small rugs, which harmonize in tone with the wicker furniture. Old-rose curtains make a bright note of color, and the whole effect is one of sunshine. So you see, there is a place for all, and all are satisfied.

OPERATORS FROM GLENS FALLS

Left to right: Misses A. E. Thomas, D. E. Le Doux (Chief Operator, not in Washington), N. A. McCarthy, M. P. Murphy, C. E. Bazinet, and A. H. Taillie. Photograph taken on roof of building in Glens Falls in which Central Office is located

A Little Work and a Little Play

THEN follow the afternoon's duties for some of the operators. For those who have split hours, a little sightseeing is sandwiched in. Miss Manz, as official mother, is, of course, consulted, and little trips are planned for spare hours.

Perhaps the girls decide to honor the Capitol by a visit, and start on their way in small groups to see where Uncle Sam conducts his business. A pompous guide meets them, and insists on explaining the entire layout of the city, telling them of how Washington resembles a cart wheel, with the avenues all radiating like spokes from the Capitol, so that in case of attack, an army could be placed on every avenue to protect the Capitol. Whether this would be very effective in these days of dreadful weapons, is a question. He details to them the meaning, design, and cost of each object of interest, some of which the girls remember, but most of which they do not. They gaze with the proper awe upon the chambers of the Senators and Representatives, and are astonished by the informality of the discussions of the chosen ones, and by the emptiness of the seats. They are then shown the Supreme Court and in it the chairs in which the various Justices sit.

Finally, when they are conducted to the famous echo rock, and are requested by the guide to stand on a certain spot and listen carefully, they feel that they have had a very satisfying excursion.

The Good Old Dinner Time

THERE is one thing that our girls never seem to forget, no matter how busy they may be, and that is Dinner, spelled with a capital D. Some ride home, while others choose to walk. All report within forty-five minutes' time after leaving the office. The meals in each house are served by the same people who managed the colleges before the buildings were taken over by the Company, and are first-class. There is quite a large variety of food, and it is well served, for the managers are accustomed to catering to a large number of people. On Sundays there is an extra large dinner, closely resembling the old familiar Sunday dinner at home, with turkey or whatever happens to be seasonable. The best argument to be advanced in favor of the food is the fact that the girls are all in fine health, many of them having gained from five to ten pounds in weight since their arrival at Washington.

On reaching home the girls spruce up a little, and then make their way to the dining-room, which is made pleasant by plants and dainty curtains, where a nice hot meal is awaiting them, and they do not keep it waiting long, you may be sure. The tables are arranged according to cities, and, as each girl is apt to think that her city is far better than any other, there is a

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great deal of laughing comment and rivalry. At these tables friendships are formed which will probably be lasting. Dates are made for parties to be held when the war is over, and various experiences are exchanged. If laughter is good for the digestion, these girls should be able to eat almost anything.

Franklin Central Office, the famous Washington "War Baby," built to meet the increasing demands incident to the war

When Buffalo Meets New York

"SAY 'oranges,'" coaxes New York.

"No, I won't," answers Buffalo. "You'll only laugh at me."

"No, we won't. Be a sport." The reply starts a gale of laughter, followed by demands for pronunciations of various words, a mimicking of the New Yorker's disregard of R's and a general discussion joined in by North and South as to how the English language should be spoken. The girls from each city seem to have characteristics of their own, and apparently the groups differ as much from each other as the individual girls.

Their Rooms

IF you could see their bedrooms, you would not wonder that the girls spend so much time in them. Some of the rooms are as large as many a New York apartment. A group so fortunate as to get one of these is envied. Friends room together, and resist all efforts to be pried apart. There is one group that has absolutely refused to be separated. Just mention the fact that you are considering dividing them up, and you will be met by a request for tickets home. Divided they leave, united they stay. As a rule, however, no more than two, three, and in some cases, four, occupy a room. For five, there is a special dispensation, although in some of the large, old-fashioned bedrooms a much larger number could be accommodated without crowding.

As a rule, friends, either new or old, room together. One would wonder how they ever managed to live without each other before going to Washington. "Like it?" they say, "We love it. We don't want to go home—not just now, anyhow." Of course, once in a while a girl gets homesick, but that is generally in her first week, before she gets very well acquainted. The fact is, there is no time for the blues.

A great many of our girls who have volunteered for service in Washington are employed in the Main Central Office

Week-Ends

IN making things pleasant for the girls, the Company has aimed at relieving them of all responsibilities, except that of their work, and to furnish them with pleasant rooms, excellent food, and even with recreations.

In order that the operators may make the most of their stay in Washington, in this most interesting period of its history, Mr. W. E. McMahon, division superintendent of traffic of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, and Miss Manz map out trips to places of interest for them. That to Mount Vernon seems to be one of the most popular jaunts, for who is not anxious to see where Washington spent his life? Vast lawns stretching downward to the Potomac make one feel a freedom of spirit that is not usually experienced elsewhere. The view over the Potomac, now frozen over for almost the first time in its history, is an inspiration in itself.

Every one of the girls who has gone to Washington's home and has seen the many objects associated with him in his daily life has come back with something indefinable but precious. Arlington, Great Falls, the Dominican and Franciscan Monasteries, all are visited by these young New York enthusiasts, who are "making hay while the sun shines."

There are other kinds of week-ends, too. Until quite recently, while railroad facilities were better, some of the girls were permitted to go home over each Sunday for a week-end trip. This practice was interrupted for a short time, owing to the transportation difficulties which made train schedules an uncertain quantity. This difficulty, however, is being gradually removed, and the girls will be allowed to resume these trips again as soon as the railroad situation clears. Nevertheless, the girls do not become lonesome, for they may still invite friends and parents to visit them at the College or Bristol School, as the case may be, and stay over the week-end.

Many of the mothers availed them-

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selves of this privilege, and were delighted when they saw in what surroundings and under what conditions the girls were living.

"Home Rule" in Washington

THE same thoughtful supervision exercised in the Central offices at home exists in Washington as well, for the Telephone Company has taken upon itself the responsibility of safeguarding all these girls who are temporarily away from home on this war work. Home rules, reasonable but ample, prevail, and are not found irksome by the girls. Naturally, their "mother" insists on knowing the whereabouts of her "daughters" and sets her seal of approval on their friends and acquaintances, who, by the way, are made welcome to call on the girls at the Washington College or at the Bristol School. The callers must, however, be introduced to the "mother," as is done in all well-regulated families. She also insists that when she counts her family at night, there will be none of her little ones still out.

When there are plans in the making for the movies or the theatre, Miss Manz is consulted. She arranges a little party, of three or more girls, and is sure to ask, "What time will you be home, girls?" The girls are careful to be on the right side of the door when it is closed for the night.

So you see, that with all their various activities, parties, guests, sightseeing trips and friendships, there is little time for sitting around in a corner.

In another sense of the word, these are not real home rules, because the girls have none of the responsibilities that would fall to their share were they at home. For instance, their baggage is arranged for, their rooms are kept in order, their laundry taken from their rooms and returned in due time, their dresses cleaned and pressed, little illnesses attended to, and all the sundry and innumerable little things that as a rule make it unpleasant for the girl who is living away from home are done for them. All living expenses, even car tickets, laundry, and other items, are taken over by the Company, so that the operators' salaries are really clear profit. That, according to the girls themselves, is characteristic of the Company, and does not astonish them at all. They can not, however, help telling every one about how satisfied and happy they are. Often, when a girl is sent for, and must return home, there are tears shed as she reluctantly leaves Washington and her new-made friends. One of the girls, who is forced to go home in a few weeks, said that at first, when she went home to visit, it made her feel homesick, but that the thought of leaving Washington now makes her feel the same way. So soon do we change!

Mail Call

THERE is one more phase of the life of our operators in Washington that has not been mentioned, but which is far from being the least of their pleasures. When "Mail Call, Girls!" is heard, there is a mad rush to the auditorium, if it happens to be Washington College, or to the Main Hall, if the Bristol School girls are concerned. With much laughter and expectancy, an excited group gathers around the distributor of the mail, and steps are heard coming in every direction. No group of soldiers at our cantonments awaits mail coming with more anticipation and relish than these girls. Every one, strange to say, seems to expect a letter and listens breathlessly for her name to be called. Sometimes, half the fun in getting a letter lies in sharing the contents with a bosom friend, so that the next best thing to receiving one is to have your friend lucky in that respect.

There is also the distribution of packages, many of which contain "goodies" from home, which as you may guess, disappear rapidly. Sometimes it is a new bonnet, which is borne aloft to be exhibited to a chosen few.

It is a sight worth seeing to glance up the stairway in the main hall at mail times, and see the girls standing on the steps and at each landing, with the hall light illuminating their eager faces as they look down, waiting for their names to be called, or pass a letter up to someone in the background. The contrast made by the setting of the young faces in the halls of the old southern house is great and brings the thought of how fittingly it might be named "The House of Youth."

A New Life

THE number of operators doing this emergency work at Washington is constantly on the increase. The personnel is changing constantly, but the girls do not have to be coaxed to take advantage of the opportunity that is being offered to them, for they realize that they are having the chance to do real Government work of great importance in the successful conduct of the war, and of doing it under exceptionally desirable conditions. They are doing a thing that in after years will mean much to them, for the life that they are leading in Washington will open up many new interests to them. The opportunity to meet girls from other cities, with their conflicting opinions and ideas, the need of adapting themselves to the mental attitudes of others—all these things cannot help having a broadening and an enlightening influence. New thoughts, new things, vistas of new roads to travel, and the inspiration to travel them—and progress results.

Complains Because He Doesn't Receive the Telephone Review.

ALL our boys who have left home for service in the Army and Navy, and all our girls who are in service in Washington, Camp Upton, and elsewhere, as well as the families of each of them, are on the mailing list to receive THE TELEPHONE REVIEW every month. If copies are not received, the editor should be notified immediately. We should be glad if this information was made known generally.

A letter, similar to many that reach us, has been received at the office of the Installation Department in Manhattan-Bronx from L. A. Friedrich at Camp Dodge, in which he says:

> Well, now to get back to business. As yet, we have not received January issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, and there were only three REVIEWS for December. Of course, when there are only three for this bunch, why, it's an auction sale going on for the man that bids the highest on it. Why, he gets the loan of it for about half an hour, and, of course, you know yourself you cannot read that wonderful magazine in half an hour. For my part, I would rather have one TELEPHONE REVIEW than I would any other two magazines, for it sure is interesting.

Our compliments and best thanks to Mr. Friedrich, who may be assured that everything possible is done by us to gratify his longing for this magazine. But we are not responsible for the mails after copies are delivered to the post-office.

Humor Bridges Thin Ice

AN East Orange commercial office representative recently had occasion to telephone a subscriber about a matter the handling of which called for delicate treatment. Wishing to make sure that the lady who responded to the call was the person in question the commercial man asked, "Is this Mrs. Hugging herself?"

She replied that she was but she wasn't—a somewhat obscure response. But the smile in her voice made the joke obvious and the ensuing conversation proved to be of the most pleasant nature.

H. BELL,
L. C. M., East Orange.

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VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE IN TRAINING TO OPERATE THE AMERICAN TEL

Left to right—*Bottom row:* Mrs. Juliette A. Chalvin (Miss Katherine M. Schmitt, Manager New York Telephone Company's Training School for Operators), Miss Ester Fresnel. *Middle row:* Miss Louise Essirard, Mrs. Marie A. McIntyre, Miss Marthe Liebert, Miss Fernande J. Van Balkom, Miss Grace D. Banker. *Top row:* Miss Ethelyn White, Miss Marguerite S. Bleyeres, Miss Suzanne M. Beraud, Miss Charlotte M. Gyss, Miss Marie L. Beraud, Miss Suzanne Prevot, Miss Frances Bigelow Paine

Telephone Operators Join Our Army

General Pershing Wants Volunteers to Operate American Telephone System in France—Must Be Bi-linguists—Other Qualifications Necessary—Telephone Companies Selecting and Training Applicants

HAVE you ever seen that United States War Poster depicting a jaunty, happy-looking young American girl, decked out in a sailor's uniform, who declares, with her head on one side, "Gee, I wish I were a man! I'd join the Navy"? Many a girl, in passing that poster, has looked at it and wished the same thing, because up to the present time there has been little active work, outside of helping at the Red Cross Society and doing the regulation thing, that a girl could do. So one looked at the mischievous girl on the poster, and agreed with her, and then dismissed the subject as an impossible one. For any one without the necessary specialized training, there seemed to be no place abroad with the American Expeditionary Forces under General Pershing.

But now, in his characteristic way, Uncle Sam has sent out a call, that has been heard all over this big country. This time, it is not a call to arms; it is not a call for money, for shipyard workers, or for any of the other numerous things needed to expedite the war; but for women to fill as important a place as any of these. In short, Uncle Sam wants "Soldiers of the Switchboard" to go abroad, and wants them at once, for without them the work of his army will be greatly hindered.

The American Telephone in France

"OVER there" great things are in progress. Behind the lines, history is being made. It is not the history of battles alone, but of industrial effort. Behind our men at the front there must be an army of tireless workers to furnish them with all the requisites for modern warfare. It is said that every man in our fighting force overseas needs an average of five tons of food, supplies, and ammunition every year. Are our Allies supplying them with these things? Far from it. Not only is the United States supplying them for her own men; she has undertaken to produce them for her companions at arms as well. To do this, it has been necessary to think and work in terms of millions and billions instead of thousands; to manufacture on a scale the like of which was never known before, and to transport across the seas, in the face of the submarine terror, men and equipment to an extent never dreamed of in years gone by.

The American Way

THEY say the American mind is virile, and ready to tackle any problem. That is true, and we not only tackle it, but we stay at it until

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we finish it to our satisfaction. In the solution of this greatest of all problems that has fallen to our share in the war, plans are being worked out so that there will be no danger of the failure of our army because of lack of food for the "War God," in the shape of equipment, munitions, and general supplies. Great factories and warehouses of reinforced concrete are being erected. Railroads to transport necessities from the seaboard have been constructed, and they are real American railroads, too, built with American materials, by American engineers, and manned and operated by our American boys. Millions of tons of shipping have been commandeered or built to carry our precious cargoes to our men abroad. Camps and supply bases have been constructed, which are American from beginning to end, inhabited by American troops, supported by American spirit, food, clothing, and ammunition, and last but not least, connected together and to the outside world by a real American Telephone System, constructed by our own American Signal Corps Telegraph Battalions.

This telephone system now covers our entire war plant. It is possible to telephone from General Pershing's headquarters to the farthest billets and camps in which our men are stationed, and to the various villages throughout France, for this American system is also connected up with the French system of telephones.

EPHONE SYSTEM IN FRANCE FOR THE ARMY UNDER GENERAL PERSHING

Left to right—*Lower row:* Miss Katherine H. Robinson, Miss Helene F. Perreten, Miss Marthe Gay, Miss Edme Le Roux. *Upper row:* Miss Frances Des Jardins, Miss Juli Barere, Mrs. Pauline McDermott, Miss Suzanne Cohleach, Miss Darnaby Henton, Miss Marion A. Taylor, Miss Anne C. Fox

The Call to the Switchboard

UNCLE SAM wants our own American girls to operate this new telephone plant. He does not wish to make England's mistake, afterwards corrected, of using men who are needed at the front, for work which girls can do better than men. So General Pershing has asked the Chief Signal Officer at Washington to engage and send to France as quickly as possible a detachment of telephone operators. The girls who are selected for the post will have in their hands the wires that serve as the nerves of our army in France. Through their central offices will pass messages of the greatest import, for each of these offices will be a sort of clearing house for all the business of war in the American zone, and much of our success will depend upon the facility of the operators in the handling of the calls that come in.

Telephone Companies Assist

THROUGH the newspapers a call was sent out by the Chief Signal Officer, setting before the public the need for operators, and stating the requirements for applicants, with the result that the Signal Corps Office was literally swamped with answers from all parts of the country, from Maine to Texas, and from Washington to Florida.

For the solution of its problem the Signal Corps turned to the telephone companies, and among others the American Telephone and Telegraph Company was asked to assist through the vast organization and resources of the Bell System in selecting, training, and organizing the proposed units of telephone operators for France as they are needed from time to time.

The portion of the work that has fallen to the share of the New York Telephone Company is being handled from Traffic Headquarters in New York by D. D. Field, District Traffic Manager, Manhattan and Bronx Division.

Qualifying for Work in France

THERE are girls and girls, and some are best for one situation, some for another, but there is only one kind that will fit into the present one. The New York Telephone Company, in acting for the Signal Corps, is choosing only girls who can "go it on their own," and who, instead of being a burden to our army in France, will be a help.

The girls who go over must be the type that will not falter in the presence of emergencies or discouraging conditions. They must be ready to go forward with a steady determination

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READY FOR FRANCE

Left to right: Miss Esther Fresnel, Miss Suzanne Prevot, Miss Charlotte M. Gyss, Miss Frances Bigelow Paine, Miss Fernande J. Van Balkom, Miss Grace D. Banker (Chief Operator)

to see it through—to do their share, and to do it with a right good will, in spite of all obstacles. There must be no faint heart or weak will. And the reward will be the satisfaction that comes with the knowledge of work well done, accomplished against great odds.

Already many have been found who have qualified, and some are expecting to leave shortly for the other side. These girls can bear witness to the thoroughness and care exercised in the selection of the operators.

Naturally, applicants of every kind and condition appear for examination. They come from every quarter and from every profession. Girls with a thirst for adventure arrive and depart unsatisfied. Girls in need of a position do likewise. There are large girls and small girls, young and old, but the greater number fail to meet the requirements, for a variety of reasons, although most of them are actuated by high motives, and are eager to go. There was even an application for the position of chaperon! For the type of girl needed, a chaperon would be superfluous, and she departed, disappointed.

Parlez Vous Français?

MANY lack the ability to speak French as well as English, and so are disqualified at the outset. As the operators at the switchboards in France will have to be able to transmit messages in both languages, and do it without loss of time, and without hesitation, there must be no question about their ability to speak French fluently. Imagine an excited Frenchman with an important communication to make, but unable to speak English, or vice versa, and an operator without a good working knowledge of both English and French—who understood little and spoke less—and you will understand why it is absolutely necessary for the girls who are chosen to speak both languages so well that they pass from one to the other unconsciously!

"Why Do You Want to Go to France?"

BUT that is not the only requirement to be met by applicants. Every girl who is considered for the post is asked a simple question—simple, but much depends upon the answer. It is, "Why do you want to go to France?"

There could be but one answer accepted as satisfactory, and it has been given by all the girls who have been chosen. First, there are our own American girls, American born and bred, who for love of France and their native land, have leaped to the opportunity to enlist in the battle for civilization. Then there are girls, foreign born, but American by adoption and spirit, whose one aim is to get into the fight for humanity "over there," and to get into it right away.

One apparently timid little girl who had seemed rather dispirited, sprang up, and choking with emotion and tears, pounded the table with her fists, and cried, "You ask me that! You ask me why I want to go to France, after what I have told you the Germans did to my home and my family! I would go a thousand times, even though I knew the day I landed in France would be my last."

Imagine girls whose family history reveals the scars of the Alsace-Lorraine struggle in the 70's, others who have lost home and family in the present war—girls who have, every one of them, a tale to tell of brothers, fathers, cousins, or friends who have already given up their lives to this modern minotaur, and you will know beforehand their answer to the question. "I want to go to do what there are no longer any of my family left to do—to fight, in this, the only way I can, and to help win the war."

"To fight and win this war"—that is the only answer that can be accepted. Only the girl with this purpose, and the burning determination to accomplish it, may go. Excitement and the novelty of the thing are not sufficient reasons. All who have acted with such an incentive have been eliminated in the selection of the units. Behind every single girl who has been selected is a story that has crystallized her purpose, and a white-hot enthusiasm that admits of no opposition. Each is going because she wants to help, because she cannot stay away, and will not be kept back.

Why Personality Counts

PERSONALITY is a rather overworked word, but nevertheless has an important place in our every-day vocabulary. Personality and ability are among the most important qualifications of a successful telephone operator, and in forming the units that are to go to France, they are considered essentials, regardless of operating experience, station in life, or other circumstances. While operating experience is desirable, of course, in this case it is of secondary importance. One need not be an operator in order to qualify. The Telephone Company will take care of that end of it, and engages to give the girls the proper instruction and mechanical training before they are sent over.

The Company realizes that these telephone units will represent the United States and the other telephone operators throughout the country. Is it any wonder, then, that personality counts, and counts high?

When a girl has met all other requirements, there is her physical condition to be considered. If she is not constitutionally strong enough to stand a rigorous life (for the girls do not expect to lie on a bed of roses), there would be no use in her going over.

Those selected by the New York Telephone Company have passed this test, as all others who follow will have to, and, while they may not have to stand any hardships, they will probably live the simple life, devoid of most luxuries. This, however, should appeal to many, for it seems to be agreeing with our boys in the service, almost every one of whom has gained in weight and improved in appearance since he entered upon the so-called rigors of camp life.

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Training for Work in France

TAKE such a set of girls as those selected by the New York Telephone Company, and imagine with what expectancy they are awaiting their final call!

The first part of their training—and this applies to those who have had experience in telephone work as well as those who have not—consists of a very intensive course in the training school for operators, designed to make them thoroughly familiar with the groundwork of the science of operating, and to give them the telephone habit and the telephone manner. The lectures and instruction in the theory and practice, combined with actual work at the switchboard, fit the new girls for the next step—actual operating experience.

Through the active interest and cooperation of a number of subscribers having large private branch exchange switchboards, the students are given an opportunity to handle commercial business as a part of their general experience in telephone work. This is followed by a period of training in the telephone central offices at Camp Merritt, New Jersey, or Camp Upton, Long Island—under military conditions resembling as closely as possible those which they will find in France.

After this they are taken into various central offices, where they work until the day they step aboard their transport.

Girls in Blue

EVERY soldier must have a uniform, and the telephone operator units, being part of the army organization, are no exception to the rule. The uniform adopted is navy-blue in color, the cloth a soft unfinished worsted, and the material and workmanship—to quote the makers—the best to be had. The equipment of outer clothing for each girl is as follows: two hats, one of velour with a brim, and the other of the same cloth as the uniform, modeled along the lines of the aviation cap; one ulster, full length, lined and interlined, and proof against the cold; one suit coat, or blouse, as it is called, modeled along the lines of a sport coat; one or two walking skirts, extra high tan walking shoes, and so on to the limit of baggage allowed.

Appointment to Duty

EACH girl who has qualified, is the proud possessor of a document, with variations to suit her case, of which the following is a copy:

PART OF THE FIRST UNIT TO GO
In their service overcoats

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Date

From: Office of the Chief Signal Officer.
To: Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces, France.
Subject: Appointment.

1. The bearer ....., was this date appointed Operator, Telephone Unit, in the Signal Service at Large, at $60 per month, with allowances of rations, quarters and medical attendance accorded Army Nurses by Army Regulations, as provided in authority from the Secretary of War, of date November 28, 1917, and will be directed to report to you for assignment of duty, upon completion of preliminary course in school of instruction for telephone operators. She executed the oath of office ....(date)...., and entered upon duty ....(date).....

2. In case of emergency, notify:
(Name of person to be notified)
(Address)

By authority of the Chief Signal Officer,
(Signature) E. WESSON,
Captain Signal Corps, U. S. R.

Vaccination Register, ...

Pay Plus Maintenance

THE salary offered by the Government for this service is: sixty dollars, seventy-two dollars, and one hundred and twenty dollars a month, respectively, for operator, supervisor, and chief operator. In addition to this, there is an allowance, or so-called commutation, of four dollars a day for the first thirty days, or until the individual leaves the country if before that time limit. After thirty days, the monthly allowances, in addition to pay, are thirty dollars for lodging, twenty-four dollars for food, and six dollars for light and heat. If the individual is lodged and fed by the Government, the allowances are, of course, not granted. All necessary expense incurred in traveling is refunded. It is, in fact, the intent of the Government that the actual pay of the operators will be free and clear. How that will work in actual practice remains to be seen, but we are assured that if it does not so develop, the arrangement will be so altered as to achieve that purpose.

Waiting for the Call

DAY by day these operators have studied and worked, always looking forward to the time when they will go over. Always, not far below the surface, that undercurrent of thought lies.

This waiting from day to day is the hardest part of their task. To make an important decision is not so easy; to follow it up with the necessary routine work connected with its accomplishment, which is bound to rob it of some of the glamour that first surrounded it, is still less easy; and to wait and wait for something to happen is hardest of all. But the end, and not the means to the end, is the important thing, and if the girls could not stand the test of the work and waiting now, they would not be the right kind of "soldiers" for this telephone army.

On the Wings of Victory

THEIR task will have its compensations. They will not be numbered among the people who must stand back and let the others go forward; who must plod on from day to day, performing tasks that, though prosaic, are all-important, and best fitted for their talents and training. We need both kinds of workers—those that go to the front, and those that keep the home fires burning, for without the one, the other would be helpless. Both do their share, and both will feel, when Victory is won, that the struggle of the nations has made them better men and women than they were before; that while it has given them battle scars, it has also taken them out of the petty rut of daily life, into which they had fallen, and blessed them with broader vision and greater souls.

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THE FIRST UNIT OF AMERICAN TELEPHONE OPERATORS
For service with General Pershing's Expeditionary Force in France

The First Contingent

THESE twenty-nine young women, including six who have been selected and trained by the New York Telephone Company, have been recruited from all parts of the country, and with four others who were not present when the photograph was taken, will constitute the first detachment of telephone operators requested by General Pershing for service in France. All of them speak both English and French fluently. They will be attached to the Signal Corps, under the command of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, Major General George O. Squier, at Washington, and will occupy a unique position in the American military organization.

This group includes one Chief Operator, four Supervisors, and twenty-four Operators. Rank is indicated by a device embroidered on a white brassard, on the left arm, which is worn in accordance with the requirements of international law, as the operators are non-combatants.

On the brassard worn by a Junior Operator is embroidered a black telephone transmitter. The brassard of a Supervisor has a laurel wreath below the transmitter, and the brassard of a Chief Operator has the two symbols mentioned surmounted by worked lightning embroidered in yellow.

Their uniforms are of dark blue serge, with the letters "U. S." on the collar.

The members of the group shown in the above picture are: Chief Operator, Miss Grace D. Banker, Passaic, New Jersey; Supervisors, Miss Jean Cunningham, Westmont, Quebec; Miss Elizabeth G. Hunter, Medford, Massachusetts; Miss Renee Mosselin, San Francisco, California; Miss Minnie R. Richards, Van Buren, Maine; and Operators, Miss Melina J. Adam, Swansea, Massachusetts; Miss Eulalie I. Audet, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts; Miss Jean Bouchet, San Francisco, California; Miss Almeria Capistran, North Yakima, Washington; Miss Estella I. Caron, Brockton, Massachusetts; Miss Josephine Davis, New Orleans, Louisiana; Miss Cordelia Dupuis, Rolla, North Dakota; Miss Sara Fecteau, West Lebanon, New Hampshire; Miss Marie L. Ford, Worcester, Massachusetts; Miss Esther V. Fresnel, New York City; Miss Marie A. Gagnon, Grafton, North Dakota; Miss Charlotte M. Gyss, Yonkers, New York; Miss Winifred Hardy, Montreal, Canada; Miss Leontine G. Lamoureux, Lowell, Massachusetts; Miss Rose Langelier, Lynn, Massachusetts; Miss Marie A. LeBlanc, Montreal, Canada; Miss Louise LeBreton, San Francisco, California; Miss Raymonde LeBreton, Berkeley, California; Miss Minerva G. Nadeau, Boston, Massachusetts; Miss Helen A. Naismith, Seattle, Washington; Miss Frances Bigelow Paine, Bronxville, New York; Miss Bertha Plamonden, San Francisco, California; Miss Suzanne Prevot, New York; Miss Georgette Schaerr, Omaha, Nebraska; Miss Agnes M. Theriault, Presque Isle, Maine; Miss Fernande J. Van Balkom, New York; Miss Alice Ward, Montreal, Canada, and Mrs. Clara Whitney, Butler, Pennsylvania.

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The Spirit of 1918

Revealed in Letters from Our Boys at the Front

ALMOST every boy or girl has read stories of knights and ladies, and has spent many hours dreaming dreams of chivalrous deeds, in which they pictured themselves as the hero or heroine. Perhaps, too, they were fond of fairy stories, and remember the time when they read with gusto and awe the tales of the horrible dragons that had many heads, and breathed out smoke and fire that devastated and destroyed all that came into contact with them.

These stories were abandoned, as time went on, for the realities of life, and as the boy and girl grew older, they classed them as impossible fiction —as things that never did, never could, and never would happen.

There was one story, in particular, that is familiar to most of us, and that is the one that tells of the Minotaur, a horrible creature that demanded the sacrifice every year of seven Greek maids and seven youths, the fairest of all in the land. With much wailing and heartbreak the doomed children were sent off each year, to appease the beast, for, unless his appetite was satisfied, he threatened to destroy the country. There came a time when all the youth of the town was gone, with the exception of a small group, among whom was Theseus, of royal birth. By a clever artifice Theseus succeeded in killing the creature, and leading his companions out of the labyrinth to safety. Never more did the beast exact its toll of victims.

Slaying the Dragon

BUT fiction and reality are not so far apart as we are apt to think. We have our knights to-day, just as folks had in the long ago, and they are ready to slay the beast that to-day demands the life-blood of nations. It is the old story intensified a thousand times. Instead of suits of mail, our knights wear olive drab or blue. Their armor is the determination to conquer for the right, invincible optimism, and trust in the U. S. A.; their guiding principle is that of fair play.

"Right makes might"—but one cannot always reason with a mad beast, and thus it happens that sometimes one has to exercise might in order to maintain right. Germany has violated all the principles of fair play, considering no trick too mean, no subterfuge too petty, to gain her ends. She has even traded upon the nobler feelings of others, and actually counted upon their not stooping to her level when she schemed and planned.

Sacrifices have been made, but they will not continue. The knights to slay the beast are ready. Who can doubt it, when he reads what our boys say themselves, with strength of purpose and high confidence? Read for yourself, and know the spirit of 1918, which is the spirit of 1776 glorified.

My dear Friend:

In compliance with our good Company's regulations, I beg to inform you that we are no longer the Eighth Regiment C. A. C., but the 58th Regiment, Heavy Artillery, Battery D, the change being effective February 1, 1918.

The night of the change became a night of revelry, that we might rejoice for the last time under the old 36th Company of the Eighth. The names of the boys that are to go over there were read in absolute silence, everyone fearing his name might not be read, and in the end there were but nine men to stay behind, and it may be rather surprising to you that everyone of them cried like babies.

We are not a Battery and not a Company. Forthwith our strength was raised from 110 men to 250, the gap being filled with men of the Draft Army.

From now on our stay in the Good Old U. S. A. is rather brief, and I dare say that the opportunity for my seeing you all will not come again, so I wish in this letter to bid you all a happy farewell and success, as all my New York Telephone friends are very good and dear to me.

I am well and happy and contented with this life, and I look forward to the time when I can return to resume my work among my friends once again. I will keep in touch with the office, through you as I go along, giving you an idea of the situation.

As ever,
BUGLER JOHN J. MACK,
Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

Somewhere in France

Somewhere in France.

Mr. A. S. Wardwell.

Dear Chief.—Just a few lines to let you know I am still in the land of the living, but this time I am writing you with a mighty big stretch of water between us. You no doubt heard from other sources of our departure from the glorious U. S. A., and for one new in the business of soldiering, can say from my standpoint that our movements were carried out with dispatch and precision, and doubt if they could be surpassed by an outfit with many years' training.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING MISS LIBERTY

Our trip across the briny deep was under the most favorable conditions. Each day beautiful and sunshiny, with the boys lying around on the decks, basking in the sun like a lot of brown tabby cats, and the nights, with the heavens full of countless clusters of stars, and the harvest moon shining down upon us, were sights far beyond my imagination. Then one fine morning, away off on the horizon, a long grayish blue streak was our first sight of land—the most welcome sight of my life, which some day I hope will be surpassed when once more we gaze on the magnificent form of Miss Liberty.

LAND HO!

Slowly the land took shape, revealing villages dotting the coast-line, and finally docking at our berth, we soon after disembarked, "Somewhere in France." The populace turned out in vast numbers to welcome the boys from Uncle Sammy's land, and our entrance was through a cheering lane of people, massed on each side of the avenue. Cheer after cheer rang out as we marched along. The boys never looked better as they swung along in heavy marching order. It sure showed up as an outfit that all must feel proud to say they belong to as we proceeded to our camp.

BEWARE THE CENSOR!

Here the heavy hand of the censor falls, and I must now let your imagination carry you through. You will, of course, surmise one thing or another, but more than likely you will be all wrong. So be prepared to be good listeners on our return, and if any of the stories told compare with the ones now being related, you will be afforded the opportunity of hearing some of the World's Champion Bull Throwers in action.

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY AND BEAUTIFUL GIRLS

The country just now is very beautiful. Everything is growing, and the Frenchman, if only cutting a grass plot, must do it in an artistic manner. The houses are constructed out of a white or grayish stone, are all of one height, but of various shapes and oddest architecture. The people, while some are dressed in rather peculiar costumes, dress, as a rule, in a way similar to those in the United States. Sunday is quite a day for the women to display their finery. While on the topic of women, let me say that the French women have the most wonderful eyes of any race that I have ever come in contact with. As a general rule, the girls are very pretty, so for one fond of beauty, there is always some pleasing sight upon which to feast one's eyes.

THE FRENCH LANGUAGE AS SHE IS SPOKEN

Our greatest handicap is the lingo. We get our little books, steal away to some quiet spot, and memorize three or four words; then sally forth to snare some Frenchman in his den. After locating your victim, you walk right up to him, take a deep breath, and fire away. You cannot imagine the magic result. You may be asking a question that in the United States one would answer with "Yes" or "No," but it is not that way over here! Mr. Frenchman straightens up and turns loose a stream nine yards long, and to us it seems just as thick, and about like that which Eveland lets loose when someone in the office opens a window in the winter time. We are simply lost and must commence all over, and we generally spend the balance of our leave before we finally succeed in coming to some conclusion or to any kind of an understanding, and most of the time it is "some." It sure is a great life. Can you picture Frank Lowden, getting red in the face, and mad as the dick-

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Al. Samuelson, 3rd Field Artillery

David Adam, Jr., U. S. S. *Seattle*

Bernard J. Flanly, In France

George L. Sterker, "Cook"

Corporal S. T. Flannery, Headquarters, 27th Division

ens, and still giving the polite answer, "Think it over"? Here one must first inquire after the health of all the members of the family, and then you may in proper form proceed to ask for a match. Nine chances out of ten he won't have any, so you're just out of luck and must try again.

The prices are about the same as in the States, if anything, a little lower, with the exception of wines, which are cheaper, far cheaper than beer in the States. The very best can be had for what a Broadway waiter would turn up his nose at if you offered it to him as a dinner tip, so you see, John D. has nothing on us.

KEEPING BUSY

The work keeps us pretty busy from morning until evening. Up to the present, all the work I have done is similar to that done on the outside, so you see it is very interesting, although the same conditions do not exist at home as here. Mr. Ford would have no job over here. "R. W." difficulties do not exist and are quite unknown. Can you imagine yourself a property owner, and a boy in khaki coming in for a permit, packing a canister on hip the size of a young cannon? Do you think you would refuse?

Well, Chief, I think it's about time I quit. Sergeant M., who is writing just opposite me, is getting very restless, and then, too, if I write any more I shall run short of paper.

Sincerely yours,
Corporal A. J. LYNCH,
Co. D, 2nd Battalion,
U. S. S. R. C., France.

P. S.—Excuse penmanship, as W. M. is having a terrible time with his letter, and keeps shaking the table. Must be to his sweetheart!—A. L.

A Talk With the Boys

Safe in France.

Dear Friend Mr. Newman:

I received the package from the Telephone Company and I want to thank you very much.

We have been over here for the past seven weeks and the life of an ambulance driver is great stuff. Every once in a while I meet a couple of New York Telephone men stringing wires along the road, and I always stop and have a little talk with the boys. They seem to like it over here, and they are doing wonderful work.

I receive your TELEPHONE REVIEWS every month. It is very interesting and I want to thank you for same.

It looks as if we were to be in for the big show this spring, for the boys are certainly coming over fast.

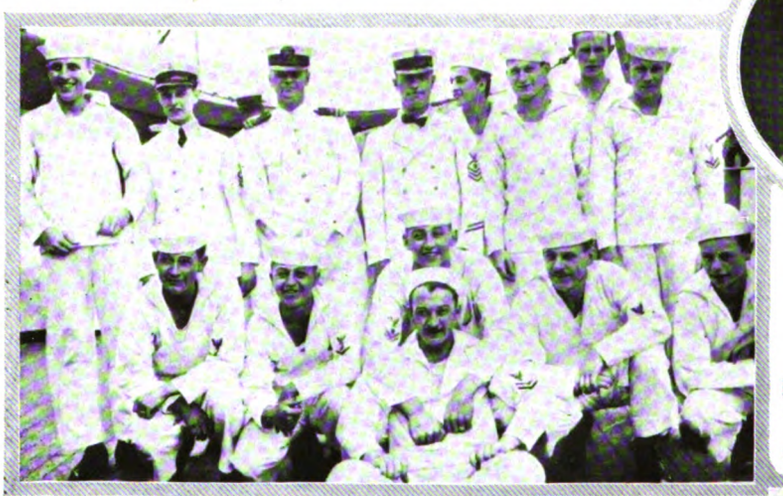
I worked in Madison Square Commercial for Mr. Reese for the past two years, and when the war started I said "This is my chance." Then I joined an Ambulance Company as a driver, and it is a great life, for I have gained at least twelve to fifteen pounds. I will send you one of my pictures as soon as possible.

I have a couple of German helmets and guns, but I would be afraid to send them for fear they would get lost.

The weather is very warm, and I think the spring is coming. We sink in mud up to our knees.

There is no more to say, so I will close and will write again.

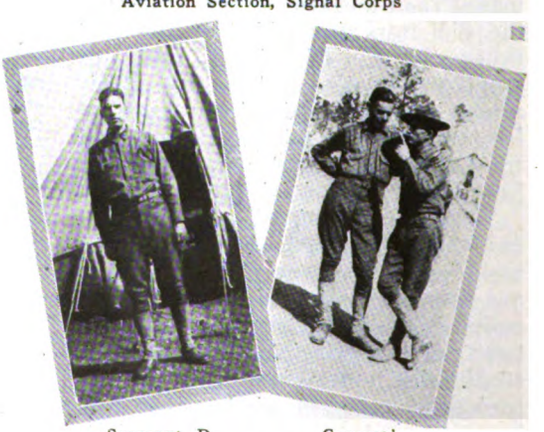
Yours truly,
JACK HABERMAN,
Base Hospital No. 18,
American Expeditionary Forces, via
New York.



Electrical "Gang," U. S. S. *Missouri*, somewhere on the Atlantic. Leonard P. Borrell fourth from left, standing

Lieutenant Frank Newman, Washington, D. C.

Lieutenant Edward W. Killgore, Aviation Section, Signal Corps



Sergeant D. Russell Dusenberry, in France

Corporal C. Van Tine, Camp McClellan

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Life in an Aviation Camp in France

H. LLEWELYN ROBERTS, of our Engineering Department, is now in that greatest of all Aero Schools in Foggia, Italy. From letters sent to his parents while he was in France we print the following extracts:

December 26, 1917.

The Christmas packages haven't all got here. But there's a lot in Paris, in fact, they say there's too much of it. The beginnings have started to filter through and we expect to have all the Christmas things by New Year's.

CHRISTMAS JOLLIFICATION

We had a pretty good Christmas, considering where we are and how few chances we have. The night before Christmas was not quiet here by any means. We have such a life of monotones here that Christmas Eve was hailed with great delight. We have had no flying in this barracks as yet, but men are leaving for the beginners' schools every day or so now. So it was arranged to have a grand flying contest in the barracks. After seven o'clock it was forbidden to walk on the floor and passage only allowed over the top bunks and along the rafters. We had bombing parties, who dropped all kinds of things on those below, and anti-aircraft crews, whose duty it was to bring down the aviators. Also Red Cross rescue service. A number of the boys had a rum punch prepared, which livened things up considerably. The Y. M. C. A. ran off the Fourth Post Musicale and Christmas Eve Concert. We had trees and plenty of music. Sang carols along with the other songs. We had the "Measles, Trio," composed of two of our lieutenants and a cadet flier. They played a violin, a home-made ukulele, and a mandolin, some combination, too! A quartet, some talks, and some gifts.

GIFTS TO RED CROSS WORKERS

When we got through there, some of us went down to the Red Cross Cafeteria and ran into our barracks gift committee. The boys in Cadet No. 1 (ours) had gathered up some of their pay and arranged to give each Red Cross worker a present. So we stuck around and each of the fourteen ladies received a beautiful golden spread-eagle. They surely did appreciate them, too. They've worn them ever since. If there's anything in this camp we appreciate, it is the A. R. C., and we told them so. Each man in camp received a Christmas bag (two pairs heavy socks, candy, handkerchiefs, towel, tooth brush and paste, sewing kit, leather shoe laces, et cetera) in a bag.

Next morning, early, on Christmas Day, they took a movie of *our* company marching past in column of fours waving the bags and so on. And another of us all lined up on the road with the Red Cross people shaking hands and giving out bags. Look for us in some Government or Red Cross picture.

"BOOST THE A. R. C. FOR US"

That morning we had four football games going on at once on the football fields we have here. It was like a three-ring circus. Most of the camp turned out to watch them. There was snow on the ground, but that didn't matter. After that, back for the big Christmas dinner. Turkey, squash, mashed potatoes, cranberries, filling, rice pudding with lemon peel, stewed figs, and pumpkin, apple, and mince pie. Some of the boys had champagne that was sneaked in. Mistletoe grows all over here, and with the fir boughs, made the barracks look very pretty. Each permanent barracks got a phonograph and records from the Red Cross. *Boost 'em for us!* A quiet afternoon, sitting around the stove reading and telling stories. There was church service at the Y. M. C. A. in the morning. In the evening we visited at the barracks, had a Y. M. C. A. minstrel show, cigars, candy, and turned in early. It also snowed again, so you see we had a full day.

The camp here has grown into a wonderfully large city with electric lights, a water system (although frozen most of the time now), and street after street of neat, warm barracks. The buildings we are now in, are better than we had in Plattsburg. But the weather, I suppose, is similar to that in the Lake Champlain region.

What They Want Most

January 8, 1918.

The mails have been so slow and mixed that some of the boys have given up hope of getting their Christmas stuff before Easter.

Will you send me a few good magazines, —a light one, a serious one, and sometimes a pictorial or two? They break the time up more or less. Then good American English language reading is scarce here. But the thing that is most appreciated by every one is the letter from home, full of gossipy, newsy stuff, and clippings.

CHURCH

Last Sunday Bishop McCormack was in camp and had charge of the Y. M. C. A. service at ten o'clock. I didn't know him, but went up to hear him, with a number of the boys. They had communion after the regular Y. M. C. A. service, and then had an Episcopalian communion service, with the Bishop officiating. A curtain rigged up formed a white background, and an altar was made with fine cloth and linen. A little cross completed it. The Bishop had on his purple robe and cap and white surplice. It made me wish I were in the Intercession again. I had communion. All the boys there thought it was fine to have an Episcopalian Bishop from home in camp. Quite a number of them went up to speak to him later, and I did, too. The Bishop asked each one where he came from, and had a little chat. I told him I was from New York and went to the Chapel of the Intercession; then it was another story. His face lit up finely, as I watched him, and he said, "Why, that's where Brain is!" Immediately it struck me that he was Mr. MacCormack's father. So I had quite a little talk with him and was tickled to death (to exaggerate) to meet some one right from home, as it were.

ADVANTAGE OF TRAINING IN U. S. A.

Then that night I went on guard with the gang again. When coming off at the second relief, Mac called me to the guard-house and said, "The 'O. G.' (Officer of the Guard) wants to see you." So away I went and came to the salute with a snap before First Lieutenant Jones, R. M. A. We are only cadets as yet, you know, and must act as half private—half officer. He says, says he, "Are you the brother of M. J. Roberts, of the Illinois Ground School?" When I told him "yes," he said that he was the kid's bunkie at Ground School and one of his best pals there. So we had a long talk. He went to Dayton, Ohio, for his flying, and having passed his R. M. A. tests, he received his commission and was ordered here. Meredith, having gone to Italy, is only just getting ready for his final work. See the difference between getting the training in the good old U. S. A. and here! I have no flying work as yet. The same applies to hundreds of others.

January 19, 1918.

I have heard from the kid once since he spent Christmas in Rome. He certainly is lucky to be there. They will be sending us out from here with the next detachment, I think, as our names are coming to the head of the list. Of course, you understand that practically all cadets come through here on their way to other schools, don't you? Then they are sent to the other real flying schools when there is room. So you have the curious anomaly of those who go to American flying schools arriving here later, with their commissions, and find their bunkies at Ground School still waiting to fly.

"STICK TO IT!" THEIR MOTTO

The spirit of the boys is wonderful. We have been through everything, since we have come here, in the way of work, and our motto is "Stick to it!" Also, "If we can't fool 'em, we're no cadets." Some of our officers don't love us, but we're like a gang of brothers, and it's one and all, the same. We are having a much easier time now, because we are on guard every second day and then rest the others. I was in charge of the guard house the other night, and it is some place. Then there are loads of trucks and stores and garages and Quartermaster storehouses and power houses and hangars to be guarded. And cadets guard them all until they go to the other schools. Millionaire guards are we. I'm a corporal of the guard among the cadets while we're here, and have been sergeant. Officers have charge of inspecting us.

The following information as to when the war will end was enclosed in one of Mr. Roberts's letters:

When The War Will End

(From the *Spiker*, American Camp Magazine)

Absolute knowledge I have none;
But my aunt's washerwoman's sister's son
Heard a policeman on his beat
Say to a laborer in the street
That he had a letter just last week,
Written in the finest Greek,
From a Chinese coolie in Timbuctoo
Who said the negroes in Cuba knew
Of a colored man in a Texas town
Who got it straight from a circus clown
That a man in Klondike heard the news
From a gang of South American Jews
About somebody in Borneo
Who heard a man who claimed to know
Of a swell society female fake
Whose mother-in-law will undertake
To prove that her seventh husband's sister's niece
Had stated in a printed piece
That she has a son who has a friend
That knows when the war is going to end.

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Capt. Bickelhaupt Describes Experience

WHEN the construction of Camp Upton was started, C. O. Bickelhaupt, of the Commercial Engineering Department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, who enlisted in the Signal Corps, was designated Signal Officer at the cantonment-to-be. The following letter is to his former supervisor. It is to his work at Camp Upton that he refers when he says, "I am now doing about the same work as I did at Camp Upton, except that over here I haven't the New York Telephone Company behind me."

January 6, 1918.

Mr. C. I. Barnard,
American Telephone and Telegraph Co.,
195 Broadway, New York.

Dear Mr. Barnard:

For the first time since I arrived in France, circumstances have so shaped themselves that I am permitted a couple of hours in which to "mark time," and I am going to utilize them in writing a letter to you and to my friends around the building,—a letter which I had hoped to write long ago, but which lack of time has prevented up until to-day. As a mitigating circumstance, but not as an excuse for my tardiness, I might say that over here one has no holidays and the working day is about fourteen hours. One rises in the cold, (you have no idea how cold), gray dawn and only closes shop long after night-fall. The weather is uniformly damp, cold, gray, dismal, generally drizzling, and underfoot it is always muddy, with a muddiness that only a few places in the States can equal. Down in Arkansas, in the Ozarks, when the spring rains are falling, I have seen mud like that which we have constantly with us here, but that's the only place I know of with which to make comparison. My work keeps me out of doors during the daylight hours and I am rapidly becoming amphibious as a result of constantly slipping, sliding, plodding through the mud.

COMING OVER

Our trip over here was not entirely uneventful. It was rather long and tedious, especially after we got into the danger zone and first came to realize that there is a real war on over here, a war in which men hunt each other and the individual life is a small thing. During the trip our ship, —an old German liner converted into a transport—was without lights. If you have never sat in absolute darkness for six or seven long hours every day, waiting for something to happen which you dread, you have missed a real experience. While we were in the Bay of Biscay we ran into one of the storms for which that part of the ocean is famous. For two days we barely made steerage-way while the storm blew over. I talked with one of the older ship's officers about it and he told me that, while he had experienced harder blows, he had never seen a worse sea rolling. It was a real one. The waves, which I should estimate were all of sixty to seventy feet in height, would fairly tower over the ship, and the ship itself pitched and rolled so that every loose thing, including all the china, the piano, cabin luggage, and other duffle, broke loose and slid around at each roll. Up in the officers' smoking room we would all be quietly hanging on in the dark when suddenly the ship would lay over and all the chairs, occupants and all, would slide down to one end of the room, only to return as the boat righted.

AN ENTENTE CORDIALE

Finally, however, we sighted land, and after a few anxious hours were safe inside a harbor. In due time we disembarked and went our various ways. Almost immediately after disembarking, I was separated from my battalion and sent to a French town of about 120,000 to take over the job of Signal Officer. As a result, I am now doing about the same work as I did at Camp Upton, except that over here I haven't the New York Telephone Company behind me. Material comes slowly; I have to do all the work with my own soldiers—construction, maintenance, and operation of both a telephone and telegraph system. I have a lot of dealings with the French Government telephone outfit, and each encounter I have with the director thereof, reminds me of nothing so much as a diplomatic encounter between the highest representatives of nations. We have established an *entente cordiale*, however, and are getting the job done. We maintain 24-hour service, both telephone and telegraph, and are giving a very good grade of service, although I should hate to have a Bell inspector see some of our installations.

AS OTHERS SEE US

I am living with a French lady, a very motherly old woman, who has allowed a major and myself to occupy two rooms in her home. In addition to our bedrooms, we have a combination living room and dining room, and take all our meals with her. She is a wonderful cook and I am almost ashamed when I think of how well we are living. I've never seen meals like Madame Pitoy gives us, with the exception of the typically French breakfast which she serves,—a cup of chocolate and a piece of bread and butter. She has a maid, a Breton peasant, who is very curious about our way of living and who accuses us of being *pas gentil* when we do something that is unusual from her point of view.

PROFESSIONAL MOURNERS

The street in front of our house is very narrow, paved with cobblestones, and thronged with the most polyglot crowds I have ever seen,—soldiers and sailors of all the Allies, in their sometimes picturesque uniforms, French peasants and working people, Algerians, Chinese, and little processions of Boche prisoners, looking very well fed and very happy to be where they are, instead of in the trenches. In the morning as we are breakfasting the noise of the sabots clattering down the street reminds me of nothing so much as a cavalry troop on the trot. Among the funny things which I see every day the professional mourners stand out the best. One sees them dressed in their mournful black frock coats and high silk, be-craped hats stalking somberly after a funeral, which often consists of a casket borne on a wheelbarrow by the relatives of the departed. Immediately after the obsequies these mourner Johnnies may be seen to make a dash for a wine shop to drown their professional sorrows.

There is very little that we are permitted to say with regard to what we are doing and where we are. Over here the war seems farther away than it did in the States. I keep in touch with it by reading the New York *Herald's* Paris edition every day. Personally, I am very well, and, with the exception of the cold, as comfortable as when in the old game in New York. The French have no fires in their homes, and it is very cold, always.

ONE LETTER FOR ALL

It is practically impossible to write letters here. I am only able to write this on account of a train of exceptional circumstances this morning. On that account, I am going to ask you to hand a copy of this to Mr. Walters, Mr. Boggs, and Mr. Honeyman of the New York Telephone Company, and to tell them that it is written as much to them and to their people at Camp Upton as to you. When I was at Upton, I made a lot of good friends among the New York Telephone people, and if I had my way I should like to write each one of them and tell them how much I have always appreciated their coöperation in the job we had to put over last summer, but just now that is impossible.

With kindest personal regards to you and to the Telephone people,

Sincerely yours,
C. O. BICKELHAUPT,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. R.,
U. S. Military P. O., No. 716.
A. E. F., via New York.

Two of our telephone men, H. H. Hammett, Supply Sergeant (left), and J. A. Laing, Horseshoer (right), with George W. Sample, Transportation Sergeant, Co. E, 407th Telegraph Battalion, National Army, France

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Flags for Second and Third Battalions

Major Shearer Sends Thanks

A LETTER has been received from Major Shearer thanking the women of the four down-state divisions of the Traffic Department for the Battalion flags and national colors presented by them to the Second Telegraph Battalion, United States Reserve, now in service in France.

The letter is full of warm appreciation and lofty sentiment, which Major Shearer expresses on behalf of the men of his command. It was sent in response to the notification by Mr. Schultz of the ceremonies attending the presentation, an account of which appeared in THE TELEPHONE REVIEW for January. Copies of Major Shearer's letter have been posted on the bulletin boards in all the offices. It reads as follows:

HEADQUARTERS
407th Telegraph Battalion
January 7, 1918.

From: Commanding Officer, 407th (formerly 2nd) Telegraph Battalion.
To: Mr. H. J. Schultz, Division Superintendent of Traffic.
Subject: Presentation of Colors.

It is my privilege to reply in behalf of the officers and men of the Battalion to your letter of December 3, 1917, telling of the presentation of a complete set of colors to this Battalion by the women of the Traffic Department of the New York Telephone Company.

Over here in this hospitable, but nevertheless strange, country, we are apt at times to feel that we are many thousand miles away from our home friends, but when the home girls, for whom Miss Brennan spoke, send us these colors with such a heart-stirring message of close interest and concern in our welfare, then we know we are nearer than ever to the home folks that really count. The inspirations we shall draw from our colors will be tinged with the pride of knowing that we carry the special interest of a fine group of loyal, warm-hearted women, who are doing their part in the same large army of which we are a small unit. The Army of America is fighting this battle, with its military arms representing, in the field, the will of the allied nation.

Please convey our gratitude, Mr. Schultz, to these women of the Traffic Department for this beautiful set of colors, and be assured that we will do our best to uphold their glory to the last of our ability. I thank you for having been so untiring in our behalf and for representing the Battalion in the acceptance of the colors. It is worth much to us to have all these evidences of good will from the ones nearest to our home thoughts.

Very sincerely,
H. H. SHEARER,
Major, S. C. U. S. R.

Further word will be received when the flags reach their destination. The designation of the Battalion has been changed to the 407th Telegraph Battalion, National Army.

Flags Sent to Major Badeau

THE second set of colors, also consisting of seven flags and identical with the others except in the numbering, has been sent to Major C. Badeau, in command of what was the Third Telegraph Battalion, now designated the 404th, at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Schultz's letter to Major Badeau forwarding the flags follows:

February 21, 1918.

Major C. Badeau,
404th Telegraph Battalion,
National Army,
Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Major:

I thank you for your kind communication of February 6, acknowledging the receipt of my check for One Hundred Seventy-two Dollars and Fifty Cents ($172.50) forwarded to you on behalf of the women of the Traffic Department toward the Company Fund of the 404th Telegraph Battalion, National Army, formerly the 3rd Battalion Signal Corps Reserve, and composed of employees of the four down-state divisions of the New York Telephone Company.

We have sent you a complete set of Battalion colors (seven flags) by the American Express Company, which we had intended and wished to have presented to the Battalion by a committee of operators and others chosen from among those who gave them. We regret that the flags were not finished before the Battalion left this vicinity, in order that the presentation might have been personal, but as they were not, and as your future movements are, of course, most uncertain, we must send them to you in this way.

They go to you with every deep, strong, and heartfelt wish and prayer from all of us for the success and safe return of the Battalion and each member thereof, and we hope that they will always be a reminder to our boys who go that the hearts and thoughts of the girls and boys who may not go, are with them every minute.

Sincerely yours,
H. J. SCHULTZ,
Division Supt. of Traffic.

Operators' Flag Fund

THE women of the traffic department of the four down-State divisions made voluntary contributions amounting to $919.49 to purchase two sets of colors, seven flags in each, to be presented to the Second and Third Telegraph Battalions, composed of men from the four down-State divisions. Mr. Henry J. Schultz, division superintendent of traffic, reports that the two sets cost $574.49, including expressage, and that the balance of $345 was divided equally between the Second and Third Battalions, $172.50 being forwarded to Major Shearer in France, and $172.50 being forwarded to Major Badeau, at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa, to be used as battalion funds for the officers and men of those commands.

Lieut.-Col. Wm. A. Taylor

LIEUT.-COL. WILLIAM A. TAYLOR he is now, if you please, though formerly Special Inspector, Plant Department, Albany District, New York Telephone Company.

Not only this, but Lieutenant Taylor has been appointed to the command of an officers' training school at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C., a position which places under his supervision the training activities of about nine hundred candidates for commissions.

Lieutenant Taylor is another proof

Lieutenant-Colonel William A. Taylor

that you cannot be a good telephone employee without being a good citizen also. All the while that he was Wire Chief at Cohoes, New York, during the old Hudson River Telephone Company days, later as Supervising Foreman at Troy, and finally as Special Inspector in the Albany District, he was developing at the same time both in his chosen vocation as a telephone man and in his career as a soldier. He reached the rank of Major of the Second Regiment, N. G., N. Y., by long service and hard work, and it was soon after his leaving the telephone service and enlisting in the Army that he was promoted to his present rank and duties.

So many telephone men are achieving distinction in all branches of the military service of the country, which is so exacting in its demands, that it is another bit of conclusive evidence of the high quality of the personnel existing throughout the entire Bell organization.

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Another Switchboard Heroine

Bravery of Miss Kathleen McGrath Saves Lives and Property in Hotel Fire

By Theodore Holdridge, Supervising Foreman, Niagara Falls

ONE of the most serious fire losses sustained by Niagara Falls in many years, resulted in the complete destruction of the famous International Hotel on January 3. Firemen and apparatus from Buffalo, the Tonawandas, and Niagara Falls, Ontario, assisted the local firemen in keeping the fire from spreading to the business section. Covered with frozen spray from their hose, the fire-fighters resembled human icebergs as they battled for hours in their fight against the flames.

The International Hotel fire adds another name to the honor roll of telephone operator heroines. Miss Kathleen McGrath, the day switchboard operator, on duty when the fire started, true to the traditions of her calling, stuck to her post. She called every room and gave the fire signal to every guest. When her duty was fully performed—then, and not until then—though completely enveloped in thick, black smoke, did she leave her switchboard and seek safety. Through her brave action, Kathleen McGrath takes her place alongside of Tessie McNamara and other heroines of the switchboard.

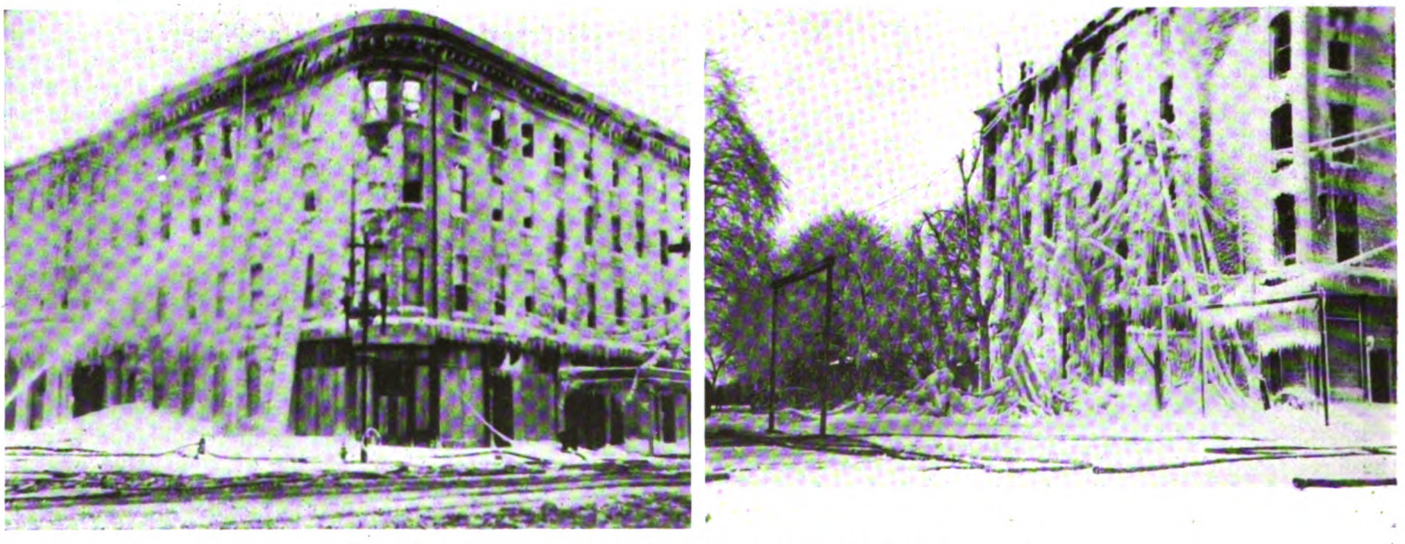
A few minutes after the first alarm sounded, representatives of the Plant Department were on the job to assist as a salvage corps for the recovery of telephone equipment. Through their efforts twenty-seven telephones, two booths, and the switchboard on the lower floor were saved. One hundred and eighty telephones, located on upper floors, were beyond saving and were lost in the flames.

The Red Cross Society gave aid and comfort to the fire-fighters by distributing knitted helmets, sweaters, and mittens, and by serving them with hot coffee and sandwiches.

The International Hotel was one of the oldest and most famous hostelries in this section of the country. Many famous men of this and other countries have been its guests. Several weeks before the fire, negotiations were begun with the Government with a view to converting the International Hotel into a convalescent hospital during the period of the war.

AFTER THE FIRE

International Hotel, Niagara Falls, N. Y., January 3, 1918. Under the direction of Supervising Foreman T. D. Holdridge, the switchboard, twenty-seven telephones and two booths were saved



Two views of the International Hotel, Niagara Falls, N. Y., during the fire

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Reducing Waste in Installation Work

DURING 1918 special attention will be given to the further reduction of waste and losses in all branches of the telephone business.

The cost of all apparatus and material used by the Company has gone up; some items have more than doubled in price, and in a few cases it is impossible to get the material, regardless of price, as deliveries are not being made. These conditions emphasize the necessity for making what we have go as far as possible.

Good housekeeping in the home means careful planning and the most advantageous use of food, fuel, and clothing. The good housekeeper is noted for neatness and ability to make the best use of the odds and ends. In these days, when conservation is a necessity, good housekeeping becomes a patriotic duty. In the telephone business, as in all other lines of work, the principles of good housekeeping hold true. If we are not good housekeepers we are remiss in doing our share to help the country.

Many of us are stockholders and, as such, we should take a keen interest in the proper management of the telephone business. Good management and waste do not go together.

What 1,300 Installers Can Do

THIS article will be confined to installation work, although it can be applied to all other branches of the Company. The installation force is large, and it uses many different kinds of material and apparatus in many different places.

The material used by the installation force has all passed through one or more processes of manufacture. When the installer wastes any of it by doing the work improperly or by leaving some behind after the work is completed, he is wasting some of the efforts of the workmen who turned out the material in the factory—at a time when the Government needs all the labor the country can produce. He has also dribbled away some of the Company's money.

The installation force in our Com-

Some of the different kinds of material used by the installation force

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pany does work in nearly all places throughout New York State, in the northern part of New Jersey, and a small part of Connecticut, and numbers some 1,300 employees.

In a force of this size it is clear that it does not take many individual cases of carelessness in the use of material —particularly with the present high prices—to waste a large sum of money in the course of a year.

If each member of this force lost only one bridle ring a week, the total loss would be 67,600 rings, or $1,014 per year. If each man on the force wasted only fifteen feet of inside wire per week, the yearly loss would total 1,014,000 feet, or $12,675. Taking all items on the list, the grand total loss would be large.

The Dollar-and-Cent Viewpoint

IN assuming that every member of the force wastes some material every week we may be taking an extreme viewpoint, but, on the other hand, we know that many of us do not get through the week without some waste.

Probably no one is intentionally wasteful. It is more likely a case of not realizing that something which may be a small matter when confined to one person, becomes a very large matter when many people are involved. It is also a case of not having the dollars and cents viewpoint. Other things being equal, the man who knows the value of the material with which he is working is more apt to be careful than the man who does not know what it costs. When the same man also sees that the total result is equal to the size of the force multiplied by the individual waste or saving, the little things take on a new meaning.

Every Article Has a Value

THE accompanying picture shows some of the items of apparatus and material in common use in installation work, with the average current prices attached. Those of us who have occasion to patronize local hardware dealers know it would be impossible to buy many of these items, in small quantities, for the prices shown. In using these prices in this article for estimating losses due to waste, we are very conservative.

Many of these items are small and may be easily overlooked or misplaced. With the "size of the force" idea in mind, however, it is apparent there is no item in use, no matter how small, which can be wastefully handled without producing a very noticeable loss in dollars and cents.

It will surprise many to know that the flax sewing thread shown in the picture, used in making up cable and switchboard forms, now costs ninety-five cents per ball. The occasional use of this twine for tying up bundles is a good illustration of waste from using one kind of material where another and cheaper kind will serve the purpose.

Tape at eighteen cents per roll is worth handling carefully.

At five cents each we do not have to lose many ground clamps to waste considerable money.

Bridging connectors are small and frequently lost, but a similar quantity of three-cent pieces would be well cared for.

Copper sleeves at one cent each soon count up; it is easy to lose them.

We can not afford to waste cable clamps or bridle rings at one and one-half cents each, nor any other kinds of galvanized material.

By studying the different items and prices shown in the picture and considering the size of the force it is possible to estimate the total waste for any particular item.

What Not to Do

IN installation work waste is encountered in many ways, some of which are as follows:

1. Work is found to be improperly laid out, thus requiring more material than is necessary.

2. Measurements are not carefully made, resulting in short pieces of cable and wire being left over, which are of no further use, except as junk.

3. Small quantities of material left lying around after the work is completed are not returned to the storeroom.

4. Wire is cut from the coil before the job is completed, leaving a length of five or ten feet over.

5. Used material removed from plant is not returned to the storeroom.

For example:

A small monitor switchboard requiring four pairs of wires was to be installed where there was no likelihood of growth. The installer had ordered 125 feet of 11-pair cable. The foreman found that the work could be equally well done by using only 51 feet of 6-pair cable.

An installer neglected to make careful measurements and ordered 50 feet of cable to make sure he had enough. When the cable was placed he had a 5-foot length left over. There is a possibility that a short length of this kind would be forgotten and left on the job, and if turned into the storeroom is too short to be of any value, except as junk.

A box of miscellaneous material, composed of ends of cable, cable clamps, rings, screws, nails, tacks, and other hardware, was found in a basement of a new building. The installer had placed everything in the box but had failed to return the material to the storeroom.

Advice for the Wise

WASTE in the use of material may be further reduced by the application of ordinary methods and exercising greater care in handling the work.

It is possible to lay out work so that the minimum amount of material is used.

It is possible to measure the amount of material required with greater accuracy, and thus avoid cutting and fitting on the job, with the consequent short ends.

It is possible to clean up after the work is completed, and see that all small pieces and short ends are returned to the storeroom.

It is possible to see that all drop wire taken down, cross connecting wire pulled out, and all second-hand apparatus and material removed, are returned to the storeroom.

Nothing should be thrown away.

According to a member of the Council of National Defense, the prevention of waste is one of the first efforts in the endeavor to mobilize the industry of the country.

If each member of the installation force does what he can towards reducing waste in the apparatus and material he works with, bearing in mind the size of the force and the value of the material he is using, considerable will be accomplished.

If You Want State Troopers

"I WANT the state troopers," is all the public needs to say to the operator in the country districts of New York State, according to the *Watertown Daily Standard*, which describes the organization of state mounted police. At such a word from the subscriber, the operator will immediately connect the call to the nearest trooper station.

The *Standard* says:

This new departure is viewed as a signal advantage to country districts which heretofore have not been properly guarded. It comes at a crisis that makes it not only a boon to the state, but a great patriotic gift to the nation. It enables the person in a country district to obtain assistance at the earliest possible moment. The first hour after the commission of a crime is worth more to the officers of justice than are weeks of time thereafter.

These troopers are patroling the roads. One detached post has been established near Ogdensburg, which is the nearest one to this city. Traffic regulations on highways throughout the state are being guarded, lost children are restored to parents, stolen horses recovered and gambling places raided.

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Telephone Duplication Eliminated

In Western New York

MR. N. C. KINGSBURY, vice-president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, addressed the Rotary Club of Buffalo at its luncheon at noon on January 17. The Rotary Club of Buffalo is the largest in the world, except the one in New York City.

After describing in general terms the immense amount of work which the telephone interests have performed for the Government, and the various industries and individuals engaged in work incident to the war, Mr. Kingsbury made an announcement of peculiar interest to Buffalo, and, indeed, to Western New York.

Mr. Kingsbury reviewed, in a few words, the steps which have been taken since the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce in 1916 first considered the telephone situation in Buffalo, with a view of determining whether or not some plan might be devised which would bring about the elimination of the extra expense and inconvenience of two telephone systems.

Mr. Kingsbury paid high tribute to the members of the Chamber who, under the direction of Mr. Frank B. Baird as president, and Mr. Richard C. O'Keefe as secretary, after repeated conferences and full investigation, brought about a condition which resulted in a plan for the unification of the telephone interests in Buffalo and Western New York.

He dwelt at some length on the intricacies and involved nature of the problem and complimented the officials of both Telephone Companies, mentioning especially Messrs. Hubbell and Ihmsen, of the Federal Company, and Mr. T. P. Sylvan, Mr. C. A. Spaulding, and their associates, of the New York Company.

What was of especial interest in Mr. Kingsbury's statement was that the Department of Justice at Washington had just indicated on the day previous, that the proposed plan is not in violation of the commitment made to that Department some years ago by the American Telephone & Telegraph Company. This opinion, on the part of the Department of Justice, is one of the most important steps in the evolution of this complex situation. Without this approval on the part of the Department of Justice it would have been impossible to proceed with the plan.

Mr. Kingsbury made it very clear that the matter of actual physical merger would have to proceed deliberately and in a fashion which may seem to the public somewhat slowly. The two telephone systems cannot be thrown together without the expenditure of a great deal of money and labor and material; otherwise, a great waste would occur with a resulting impairment of the local service. A large amount of physical work must be expended in order that the two plants may be, as it were, woven together, and all this must be done with as little interruption and interference with the regular service to the public as possible.

He pointed out that, unlike water and gas companies, the physical consolidation could not be effected by merely joining the plants together, but that a lot of special apparatus and costly devices are necessary to promptly handle interchanged traffic and to make the two systems one. It is always necessary that these unification problems be worked out gradually and only so fast as existing forces, already heavily drawn upon by special war activities and in furnishing soldiers for the Army, can work out the amalgamation of the plants.

Mr. Kingsbury explained that the situation is very different from that with respect to the railroads. The general consolidation of telephone properties as a war measure, instead of relieving men or money or material for war usage, would require tremendous amounts of all three of these factors, as well as more years in time than the war can possibly continue. Furthermore, such consolidation is not necessary, as a national system of telephone companies already exists. He complimented the people of Buffalo on the splendid response to the proposition in Buffalo and elsewhere throughout Western New York, when substantially all the subscribers of both systems were interviewed, recalling that when the matter was submitted to the people by referendum a substantial majority voted in favor of the consolidation.

Mr. Finley, President of the Rotary Club, Buffalo, greeting Mr. Kingsbury, the speaker at the banquet on January 17

Mr. Kingsbury went on to say that this consolidation should not, in any way, be considered as establishing a monopoly of telephone service in Western New York, because the New York Telephone Company is, in fact, giving up more stations than it is acquiring. In connection with the consolidation to be effected in Buffalo, there are to be consolidations also in Rochester and Jamestown and vicinities, and in those cases the New York Company is selling out to the Independent interests and retiring from the field.

All of these exchanges and all of the subscribers in all the exchanges, whether Bell or Independent, after the consolidation, will be connected in one comprehensive system of communication. The great advantages of this arrangement can readily be understood.

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A barracks without, but a home within, furnished with feminine taste and comfort, and peopled with girls of the Company

Telephone Girls in the Heart of a Military Camp

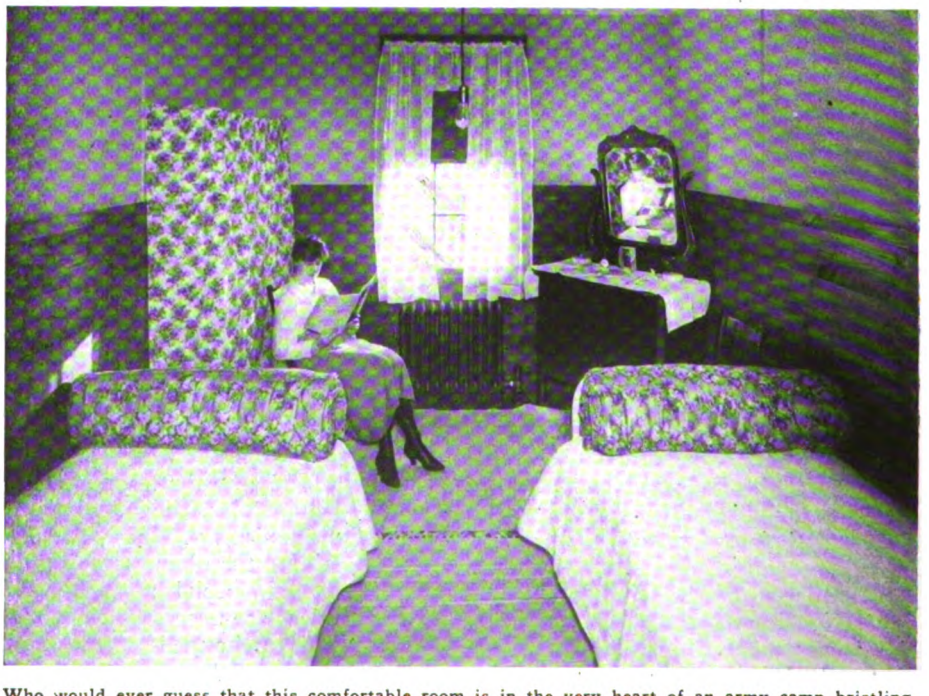
Housewarming As Operators Serving Uncle Sam Occupy Home Provided at Camp Upton. *The Telephone Review* Attends

By Helen James

AT the end of a long, rough road, bordered with scrub oak and pine trees, among the long aisles of barracks, in the very center of the great, pulsing, military city at Camp Upton, Long Island, there is a one-story structure, similar to the plain, brown wooden buildings on every side except for a white flag with a blue letter "T" flying jauntily from a pole overhead and the familiar blue Telephone sign at the door. Pushing open the door on which in large black letters appear the words, "Admittance only to operators," a very busy scene confronts the intruder. At the telephone switchboard are seated perhaps the most modest, but certainly some of the most active soldiers of the Camp—the girl operators—who, with their deft fingers, unite the great "U" shaped city, that stretches two miles long and a mile wide, into a single organism working with the one great purpose of serving Uncle Sam. In the bright yellow, green, and red lights that flash hither and yon over the board, is reflected the life—the feelings, the activities, the duties—of the great army of khaki-clad men bravely training to enter a larger field of service across the water. Again, through the instrumentality of these few girls, the isolated camp is brought into touch with the outside world, and at the end of the week the constant array of busy lights on the trunk lines predicts the comfort and cheer of home awaiting the boys "off duty" on the morrow.

Early Hardships Bravely Endured

THE girls have stayed "manfully" at their posts ever since the latter days of September, in spite of the fifteen-mile trip from Riverhead to their headquarters, once or twice daily in a



Who would ever guess that this comfortable room is in the very heart of an army camp bristling with war preparations? One of the sleeping rooms for the telephone girls

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"Won't you step into my parlor?" "Off duty" girls, caught by the camera, enjoying a social hour in the living room of their home in Camp

motor bus, named in sport "The Ark." When the weather was warm their progress was impaired by the miles of mud through which the engine puffed and chugged, lurching back and forth —in short, making haste slowly— while at the office the squad of girls would work patiently past their regular hours until the delayed bus could reach its destination.

Then suddenly the road changed over night to a veritable "rocky road to Dublin," when the chill winds from the north brought ice and snow, and the automobile plied over the ruts and down into the gullies in a way that would put a regular "war tank" to shame. With every precaution against accidents "blow outs" did occur, as they have a habit of doing, and even the foot-warmers and robes could not entirely keep out the cold of the bleak, black nights, or of the early morning gloom, when the wind whistled through the trees, and the temperature played around zero, in the desolate stretches of barren woodlands between the office and home.

These inconveniences were accepted in the spirit of adventure by the girls, who remained oblivious to the petty trials in the eagerness to do well their appointed tasks, and to add momentum to the great wheels of war preparation that will "make the world safe for democracy." They had, too, the happy anticipation that these hardships were merely temporary and would soon be banished by the building of a comfortable home right in camp.

Sunbeams dance to and fro in this neat, pretty room, filling it with brightness. The sleeping quarters of the Chief Operator in the home for the girls at Camp Upton

The Paradox of a Home in an Army Camp

WITH the completion of a two-story wooden house, hardly a stone's throw from the office, the necessity of making the long, hard trip daily was ended, and an attractive home in the camp was provided for the girls. Outside, a martial spirit may prevail; soldiers may perpetually march by in small groups or large companies; large army trucks may lumber along the uneven road, or cavalry horses gallop past; but open the door to the plain, brown house standing at the foot of a slight bluff among a clump of pines, and a contrasting world of home peace and com-

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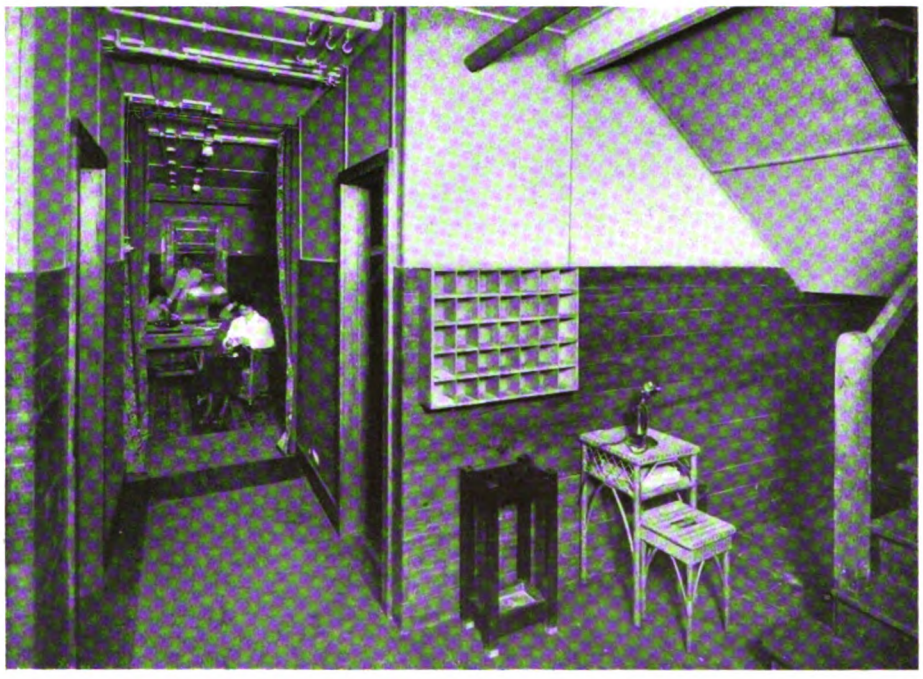


The first scene that greets the eye on entering the operators' home. The hallway, with just a slight glimpse of the parlor and stairway

fort is presented. A house mother greets the girls at the end of their day's work and ushers them into the dining-room where a hot, wholesome dinner awaits.

After dinner the comfortable living-room with its soft lights and easy chairs, invites them to an evening of rest and enjoyment. The warm, rich color of the furnishings and lights adds charm to the attractive scene, surrounding the girls with an atmosphere of beauty and harmony. Around the table under the large, pink-shaded electric light, a group gathers to play croconole, or one of the many popular games tucked away in the drawer for their amusement. In the cushioned chairs girls browse through the books that appear on the shelves of the book-case, and at the piano some one plays vivaciously "Over There." The music is greeted with a rush to the piano and all join in singing with a rollicking spirit the latest airs. Suddenly a loud report breaks the outside stillness, shaking the house and startling the inmates. "A cannon is being tested," says one in scorn at having been surprised into a quick jump of fright, and the evening pleasures are resumed.

"Don't let taps catch you with your lights burning" is a sufficient hint to send all scurrying to bed, for the rules of camp apply to all—boy and girl soldier alike. When the bugle sounds at eleven o'clock and the long rows of twinkling lights in the barracks vanish, leaving only a few lamp posts blinking in the darkness, all is quiet except for a suppressed laugh that escapes through a closed door, or a whispered "good-night" that floats down the hallway. The windows of the Central office alone shine brightly, where several girls hold their night vigil, ready for an emergency or urgent Government business call.

The Camp Awakes and the Day Begins

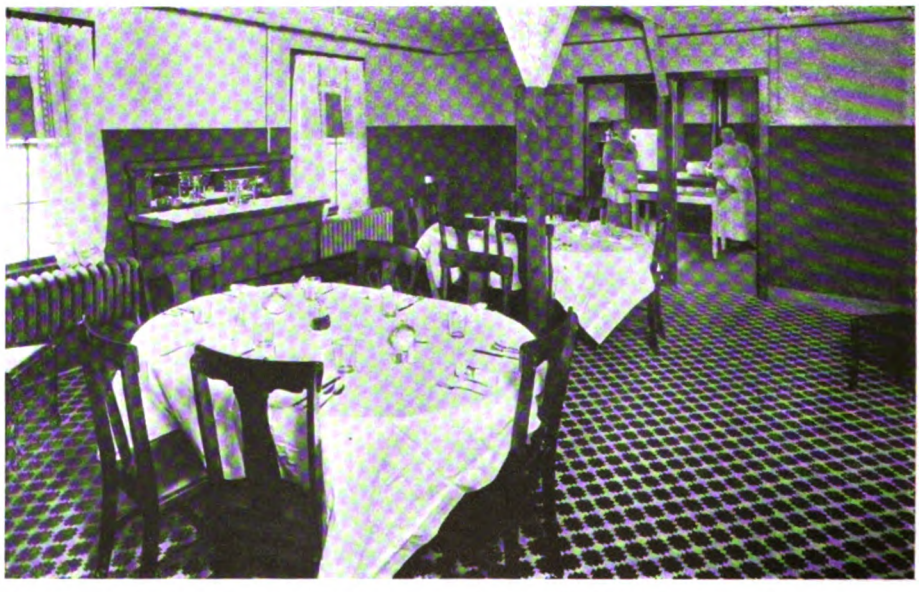
IN the morning the reveille, accompanied by a steady beat of the drum and a rhythmic tramp of feet, awakens even the most stubborn sleeper, announcing in this solemn fashion that the work of the day has begun and all must be up and doing. Soldiers appear from all directions, hurrying with great, swinging strides to and from the barracks, for whether in training or on a jaunt they always keep in step with a quick, even rhythm. Drills commence, and long lines of soldiers, sturdy and erect after several months of army life, exercise back and forth to the brisk commands that sound forth sharply through the crisp air: "Atten-tion!" "About-face!" "Forward-march!"

It is time then for the first shift of girls to go on duty, relieving the night operators, for orders and commissions are beginning to flash over the wires from one section to another. They return to their switchboards with more than pride in their work, a joy of having a part in the discipline, of filling an essential post in that great, surging enterprise.

Why the Affairs of the House Run Smoothly

THE Company has been fortunate in obtaining the services of Mrs. C. E. Wickham as house mother, whose extensive training and experience in household management enable her to direct the affairs of the house proficiently, and whose charming personality and kindliness endear her to the girls. Under her supervision a cook, an assistant, and a waitress perform the household duties with regularity and precision.

The house was only completed the last of January, and on Monday, February 4, the first five girls and Mrs. Wickham were able to move in. The interior decoration of the house was left in the hands of Miss Mary Van Gaasbeck, of the Company, who has been so successful in planning the furnishing and decoration of the new Central Office rest rooms. A very effective color scheme has been attained



The spacious, bright dining-room in the operators' house, with Mary, the cook, and her assistant presiding over their domain in the rear

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in every room. The brown runners of the hallway harmonize with the wainscoting of natural wood color. In the parlor the rich browns and blues of the carpet, the cushions, and heavy cretonne curtains add the touch of brightness to contrast with the sombre oak table and piano and the large wicker divan and chairs.

"The Wintry Wind Doth Blow," But the Girls Don't Care

SMALL wonder that the girls in their leisure hours shout gaily to each other, "Come and bring your knitting in my cosy room and chat with me," for the comfortable chairs, the rag carpets of soft neutral tints, the dainty white curtains, and the pink flowered cretonne hangings, in their neat simplicity, give a touch of home comforts. A large window makes each room bright and cheery. The cold, chill winds that sweep over the open country on gray days have no terrors when the radiators always purr and sputter in an encouraging way, chasing out the penetrating dampness and keeping the rooms of a warm, even temperature. The ravenous jaws of the furnace, installed in the heating plant at the rear of the building, are continually fed with coal, and the heat is carried to the farthest corners of the house by a net-work of pipes.

But where do all the "goodies" come from, the delicious apple jam, the puddings, and the good hot roast beef, potatoes and vegetables, that appear at dinner? Just take a look through the kitchen and into the well-stocked cupboards and pantries, and the query is answered. The energetic cook, Mary, if you please, with a master-hand converts the contents of the well-packed larder into a hot, steaming meal for each shift of hungry girls hurrying back from work, anticipating something good.

"Make Yourself at Home"

THE folks at home have not been forgotten. Shortly after the girls had arrived, the mothers were invited to visit the little home that so bravely exists in the heart of the army camp. The bus, one sunny afternoon, appeared at the station to meet the mothers who could come and convey them to the headquarters. Any anxiety they may have felt about the comfort of their daughters was soon dispelled when they saw with their own eyes every nook and corner of the neat, pretty house. There was no need for the familiar injunctions, "Keep warm," "Go to bed early," each girl with pride assured her fond parent. After a friendly, social afternoon in the parlor, the mothers returned with easy minds, a feeling that was increased as they jolted along the bumpy road over which the girls had journeyed so many times.

With eager interest the girls await the cheer and brightness of the new life of spring, for as they look out through their windows, long stretches of mud with patches of melting ice and snow make the scene rather grim and dreary. True, there is plenty of activity, a fact disclosed by the deep ruts and footprints that cover every portion of the parade ground and fields. The long lines of soldiers that appear and disappear suddenly, only add to the sombre colors of the fields. The bayonets or rifles alone flash in the sunlight as the men charge down the road. These men marching before their eyes are living such different lives, so detached from their ordinary activities, but yet with jolly good humor and high courage, they make light of their isolation.

Who Said Girls Don't Make Good Soldiers?

IT is no wonder that the girls are proud of the part that they take in forming the link which connects those boys with the friends at home, and in speeding the war activities that bring all so much nearer the goal. Since the end of September the girls have worked faithfully in the camp under the leadership of Miss Irene Thompkins, chief operator, Suburban, Long Island, who has added one more successful achievement to her record of twenty-eight years of efficient work in the New York Telephone Company. She, together with the chief operator, Miss Anna Creighton, and the evening chief operator, Miss Mary B. Ketcham, and their plucky staff of girls, have been the pioneers in a new undertaking, filling their posts, not only with loyalty, but with resourcefulness and courage required of a true soldier of the country.

J. E. Boisseau Made Publicity Manager of Bell of Pa.

JOHN E. BOISSEAU has been made Publicity Manager of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania and Associated Companies, effective March 1, to succeed P. C. Staples, who has been appointed Division Commercial Manager at Pittsburgh, following the transfer of W. B. Clarkson to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of S. M. Greer as General Commercial Superintendent of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company at Baltimore.

Because of Mr. Boisseau's former connection with the New York Telephone Company, his success is a source of pride and interest to our organization, and we extend our congratulations upon what he has achieved since he left us.

It was in July, 1906, that Mr. Boisseau applied for a position as salesman in the commercial department in New York. His ability soon revealed itself, and his first big opportunity came when he was transferred to Albany as Advertising Manager of the newly-formed Hudson Division of the Company. He soon distinguished himself as a publicity man, and also found time to coöperate actively with the Commercial Department throughout the Hudson Division in the development of its sales organization.

In the meantime, down in Baltimore, it was decided that the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company should have a Publicity Department. Then the success of Mr. Boisseau's work in Albany brought about his second big opportunity, for it resulted in his being chosen to organize and direct the new bureau. This was on September 1, 1912. Among the first things he did was to start a Company magazine for employees, *The Transmitter*, with T. T. Cook as editor, and from January 1, 1913, to the present time this splendid contemporary of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW has kept us in touch with much of the growth and activity of the Publicity Department and the important part it has performed under Mr. Boisseau for the Company.

Referring to his leaving "to take up his new and larger duties in Philadelphia," *The Transmitter*, in its current issue, says:

> The organization, from top to bottom, will miss him keenly. He leaves, nevertheless, with the assurance that every one with whom he has associated is his friend, and that all of us wish for him as much and, if possible, more success and happiness in Philadelphia than he enjoyed while in Baltimore.

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Japan Honors Gerard Swope

IN the *Western Electric News* of February, 1918, there appeared an announcement that Mr. Gerard Swope, Vice-President of the Western Electric Company, was decorated with the order of the Rising Sun by his Majesty, the Emperor of Japan. Mr. Swope has just completed an extensive tour of that distant land, where he has been instrumental in investigating and organizing the electrical and telephone systems which are still in an embryonic state.

There is more truth than fiction in the remark that the Bell System extends around the world. Through the Nippon Electric Company, Limited, an associated company of the Western Electric, the manufacture of telephone apparatus and electrical supplies is being pushed forward in Japan. The government is now appropriating large sums of money, 100,000,000 yen, or $50,000,000, to be expended during the next eight years in the development of the telephone system.

The appreciation of the work of the Western Electric Company in general, and the efforts of Mr. Swope in particular, is expressed most strikingly by this honor conferred upon him by the Emperor of Japan.

The demand for an extensive telephone system has become so great in Japan that the Government realizes that it is not merely a public utility, but a government necessity. Thousands of names are on the waiting list to have telephones installed, and thousands of others have not made application because of the discouragement of so long a waiting list. The enthusiasm with which the Japanese await a more developed telephone system is shown by the fact that they are willing to pay large amounts of money for the telephone rights of anyone who will give up his telephone extension and have it transferred.

GERARD SWOPE
Recently decorated with the Order of the Rising Sun by the Emperor of Japan

The first attempts of the Japanese government to have a telephone system were made in 1877. Mr. Ren Sawai was sent to America to study the telephone business. Nothing was done, however, until a commission of which Dr. Saturi Oi was the head, was sent abroad to make investigations along this line. Dr. Saturi studied for a time under Mr. Carty. As a result of the work of these men the telephone was finally introduced into Japan, but its development was very slow in comparison with that of western civilization. Now, the telephone system in Japan consists of approximately 250,000 subscribers and toll lines connecting the principal cities. As this is so inadequate for the tremendous needs of the people, every effort is being expended to increase the system and give added efficiency, and it is with this in view that Mr. Swope made his tour in Japan. The telephone bids fair to become one of the most commercial, industrial, and social assets of that country, as with the growing necessity and the great desire of the masses of the people, the Government is expending so much money and energy on its development.

S. M. Greer Resigns to Become Vice-President of Bankers' Trust Company

S. M. GREER is returning to New York as a vice-president of the Bankers' Trust Company. He will find his problems different, but no one who profits by years of training and discipline in the Eastern Group of Bell Telephone Companies, such as he has enjoyed, will experience any great difficulty in meeting new problems and solving them in a sincere and efficient manner, whether in or out of the telephone business. Added to this experience, Mr. Greer brings a genial and optimistic personality which easily makes friends and inspires all who are associated with him. In his new business, and as an officer of one of the most important financial institutions in the world, he will need all his resources, and his former associates, who will miss him, are assured that with the enthusiasm and energy which made him a pronounced figure in the telephone business, he will carve for himself equal success as a banker.

Mr. Greer was one of the efficient men of the Bell organization whose services were placed at the disposal of the American Red Cross Society, and since July, 1917, he has devoted to it all his time and attention as head of the department in charge of chapter work in cities and towns throughout the country, with results that have been brilliantly successful.

His promotion to the position of General Commercial Superintendent of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, with headquarters in Baltimore,—which he occupied when he took up the Red Cross work,—occurred on January 1, 1913. It does not seem so long as five years ago that we printed an appreciation of him upon his resignation as Metropolitan Manager of the New York Telephone Company. For twenty-three years he had then been with this Company, starting as a boy just out of High School. First in the Accounting Department, then in various positions in the Contract Department and in the Vice-President and General Manager's office, and afterwards chief clerk in the office of Mr. U. N. Bethell, Mr. Greer became Division Commercial Manager of Long Island in 1907. Two years later he was transferred in a similar capacity to the New Jersey Division, and in 1910, upon the acquisition by the Company of up-State territory, Mr. Greer was created Assistant General Commercial Manager, and in 1911 Metropolitan Manager.

In referring to his resignation to accept a higher position with our associate Company in 1913, we said:

"During the twenty-three years that he has been identified with this organization he has not failed to leave the impress of his personality upon every position that he has occupied, from that of junior clerk to Metropolitan Manager." This is S. M. Greer. Watch him.

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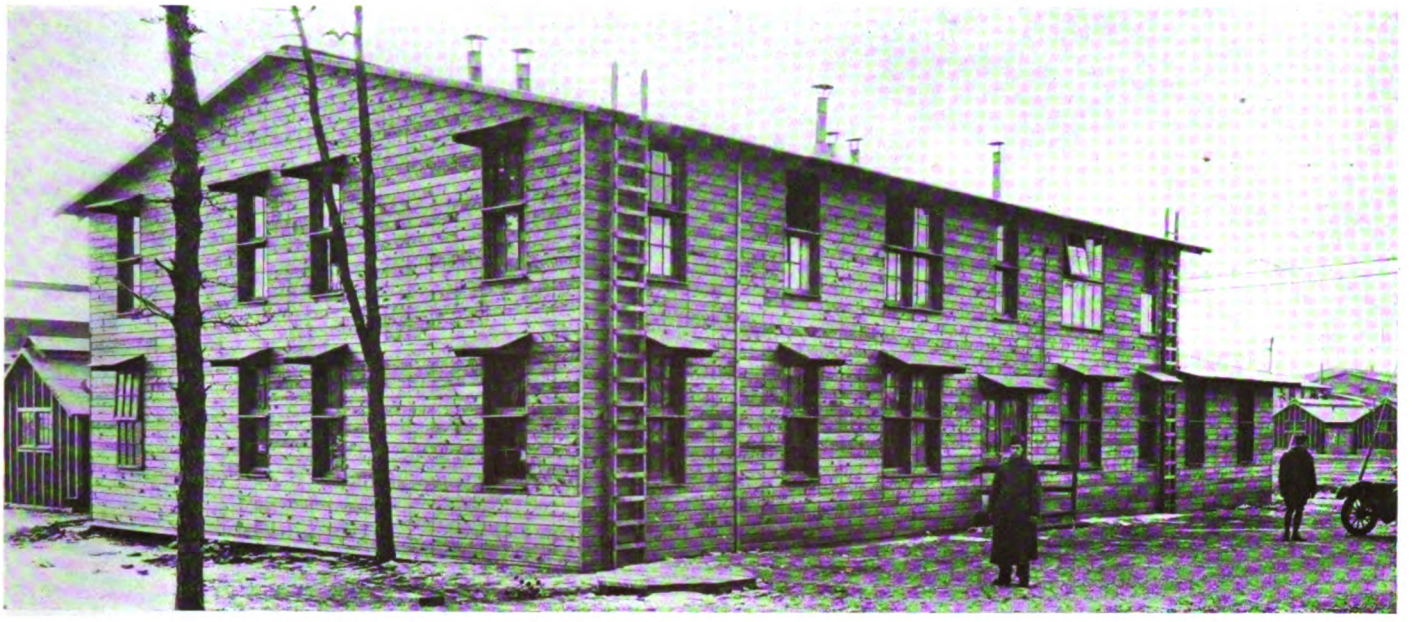

A real barracks, exactly similar to those for soldiers, in which the telephone boys' quarters are located

Camp Upton Keeps Telephones Busy

Telephone Attendants Quartered in Camp to Serve Switchboards in Eight Y. M. C. A. Huts

THE principal means a soldier has of communicating with the outside world at Camp Upton, Long Island, is through the telephone booths in any one of the eight Young Men's Christian Association huts, where telephone attendants are always on duty, "eager to help the soldiers out." Eighteen alert young men, who have volunteered for the work in this camp, were transferred from their regular assignments in the Public Telephone Department in New York City.

If any deluded individual should imagine that the work of the "telephone boys" in camp is uneventful or monotonous, performed without the spirit or stamina of a soldier, let him step into a Y. M. C. A. hut on a Friday or Saturday evening. The attended stations are located in a central position, adjoining an alley that connects the hallway or meeting room with the larger recreation room. At one side a basket-ball game or a jolly entertainment may be taking place, and in the entrance hall, amid clouds of tobacco smoke, chaps making the most of the relaxation from duties which the Y. M. C. A. offers, are enjoying the companionship of their comrades, or of the books and magazines.

But on the busy nights at the end

The Boy Telephone Organization at Camp Upton, composed of volunteers from the Public Telephone Department. Anyone can see they have on their new uniforms

Not "On Parade," but showing off their new overcoats

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"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Recreation room where the boys congregate when "off duty"

The Mess Hall of the Public Telephone boys. The Chef and his assistants are very popular when it comes to meal time

of the week, scores of soldiers congregate impatiently at the doorway to the telephone booths awaiting their turn for the attendants to make connections with the "folks at home." "Hop-kins-ville — in num-ber four," are welcome words to the soldier who is soon telling those at home of his unexpected holiday, and of his anticipation of finding a big chocolate cake or something else just as good when he arrives on the morrow.

A Popular Resort

AT all hours of the day there is generally activity in and around the telephone booths which buzz and hum like a bee-hive, until the Y. M. C. A. closes in sufficient time for the soldiers

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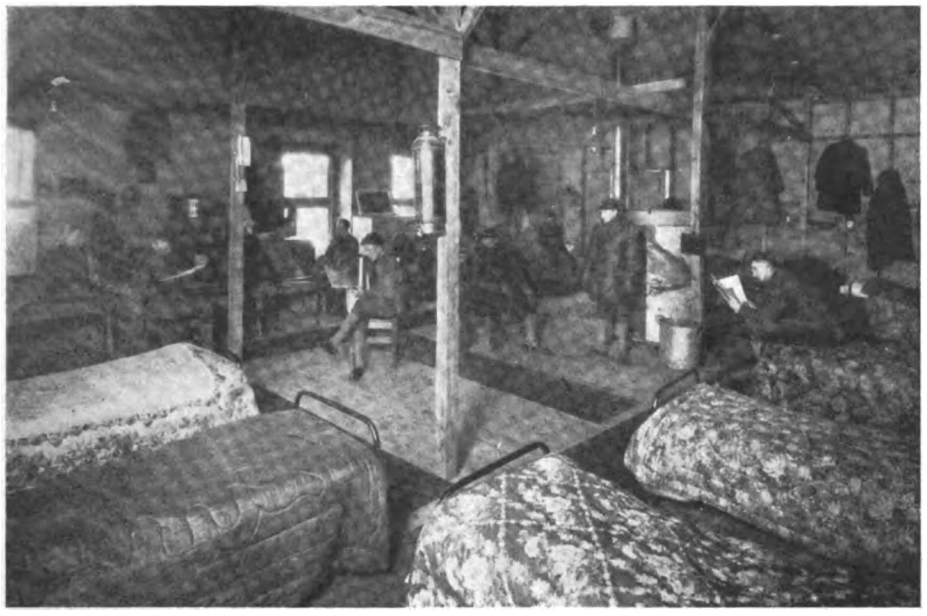

The room upstairs in their barracks where the boys "bunk"

to get settled in their barracks before the bugler in his tuneful way gives the warning of "Lights Out." Although there are few incoming calls, due to the difficulty of locating the soldiers in training in all parts of the camp, friends and relatives are eagerly sought by the boys in their free hours.

Growth of the Telephone System by Leaps and Bounds

THE installation of these public telephones marks one of the last chapters in the rapid growth of the telephone system in camp.

In July, when Camp Upton was hardly more than a diagram on the engineers' papers, and the commotion and bustle of large operations in progress had just invaded the wilderness, a temporary shack was built near the railroad track to house a forty-line magneto switchboard. Here two attendants first began their work as operators under the supervision of Mr. H. C. Orth, district traffic manager, Suburban, Long Island. But larger plans were on foot, and before the camp took shape, and building after building sprang up—seemingly at the touch of a magic wand, but actually after hard, concentrated labor—the telephone lines and cables were laid; new switchboards were added as the cantonment grew, and a central office building was erected to take care of a ten-position switchboard operated by girls as early as September.

Y. M. C. A. Buildings Best Suited

IN the process of construction the question arose of equipping the camp with public telephones, which involved a consultation with the military authorities.

It was decided by the Company that in preference to placing an innumerable number of telephones at convenient points throughout the camp, it would be to the advantage of all to centralize the booths in each of the eight Y. M. C. A. buildings, with an attendant in charge at each location, and to place coin-box public telephones in the Knights of Columbus buildings, hospitals, and at a few other places. The matter was taken up with Mr. John Sherman Hoyt, chairman of the War Work Council of the Young Men's Christian Association, from whom permission was obtained to construct a small addition to each Y. M. C. A. hut to accommodate a switchboard and six booths.

Before the building of this special addition, telephones were installed temporarily in booths in the recreation rooms of the buildings. The Y. M. C. A. huts in this camp, as in all the camps throughout the United States, were designed as unit buildings for the cantonments, and consequently, no better or more accessible place could be found for the telephones, that are a joy to every soldier's heart, than in his own recreation hall.

The Boys in Their Barracks

THE eighteen "boy operators" in charge of the attended stations are quartered "soldier fashion" in their own barracks, with the distinction of having a "Mess hall." Their two-story frame building has, however, been provided with many comforts of heat and light, comfortable chairs, games, and a Victrola. A large, open room with a plain board finish on the first floor affords a rest room for leisure hours. Across the hall is the "mess" room, and when they return from their stations, cold and hungry, the chef and his assistant have hot, nourishing food laid out on the long wooden tables.

In the language of a soldier, they "bunk" on the second floor, in a large room whose walls are lined with comfortable cots covered with thick, warm woolen blankets. Although they are surrounded by the grim realities of war preparations, and military tactics are practised under their very windows at all times of day, the boys shake off the dust of army life at the doorway of their barracks and enter immediately into the atmosphere of comfort which the warmth and furnishings of their house afford.

Telephone attendant at switchboard in Annex to Y. M. C. A. Hut where six telephone booths are located

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"All Dressed Up"

THE new uniforms, that the Company has recently provided, fill the boys with pride, and they move about with new dignity becoming their position in an army post.

It was early found that the regulation uniform of blue serge, which is customarily used by the boys in the Public Telephone Department of New York City, did not meet the requirements of an army life. The extreme wear and tear, the mud which covers practically every inch of territory and spatters in a most aggravating way, the rain, and the sleet, gave these suits a rather bedraggled appearance, especially when there was no fond mother or sister with a needle, or a tailor-shop around the corner to repair the damage.

These difficulties have been done away with by the new unifoms of forestry cloth of a greenish color, in which the boys can brave all sorts of inclement weather, take long "hikes" through the proverbial army camp mud, and still maintain a trim, dignified appearance. The uniforms are of the neat English cut, consisting of a blouse coat with a roll collar and patch pockets, knee trousers, leggings, and flannel shirt. In addition, overcoats lined with sheepskin, caps of the same general character as the uniform, and gloves, are provided. The comfort of the boys in summer has also been considered, for the neat flannel shirts may be worn without the jacket, and the rolling collar with a jaunty black tie prevents the annoyance of working in an uncomfortable, stiff high collar.

In the Army Serving the Army

IN every respect the "telephone boys" fit into their unique environment. Their barracks, their uniforms, the discipline of their work, performed with dispatch and precision, all tend to make them a unit in the great army life. Some one said that a panoramic view of the camp reminded him of a mining camp, but he could not have seen the grim determination of the soldiers on the march, in drill, in bayonet charges—the restless activity everywhere which undeniably give the aspect which can be found in an army camp alone.

Our boys feel that they are part of this organization, and with loyalty and enthusiasm perform their duty.

Testing the rapidity with which its men could be summoned, the First Field Artillery, whose armory is at Sixty-eighth Street and Broadway, made a trial with Battery E, consisting of eighty-five men. All men of the battalion were summoned by telephone. The officers reported that the experiment had been "entirely satisfactory."—*Evening Telegram* (N. Y.), February 24.

The Death of William T. Cullington

INFORMATION regarding the death of William T. Cullington, mentioned in this magazine last month, is contained in letters from France which we have been permitted to copy.

The regimental chaplain, the Reverend M. H. Wallace, wrote on January 9, from Base Hospital No. 17:

William T. Cullington

You have, doubtless, already received official notice of the death by accident of William T. Cullington, Co. D, 407th Tel. Ba., N. A. On his service card I find your name as the friend to whom notice regarding him should be sent. Your friend was a good soldier and well liked by his comrades. He died a soldier's death in the service of his country. His death occurred on the 7th inst. Mass was celebrated for him in the church near his station, and today he was buried from this hospital with military honors and according to the rites of the Church. We laid him away in the beautiful cemetery appointed by our country as the burial place for its sons who die in this region. His grave is properly marked and its location officially recorded.

Kindly accept my sympathy in your sorrow and convey to all his loved ones in the home land our sympathy, also. "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends."—for so he has done. "He fought the good fight, he kept the faith." May the blessing of God be with you all.

Captain F. W. Mastin, of Co. D, to which Mr. Cullington belonged, wrote to the same person on January 8:

It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the death on January 7, 1918, of William T. Cullington, a member of my command. Words can, of course, convey but meager expression of my sympathy at this time. His death, which occurred in an automobile accident, was for his country while in the performance of his duty and he has truly "Died, that others may live." He was a brave and true soldier whose loss will be keenly felt and mourned by all the members of this command.

Burial was made at a beautiful cemetery in France, whose soil he has helped to defend.

In a letter to one of his correspondents in Brooklyn, Sergeant A. J. Graham, also of Co. D, writes under date of January 19: "I am not with the Company now, but on 'detached service' as an assistant instructor in the Wire Department at the Army Signal School," and he continues:

You have probably heard by this time that one of my room mates in the haunted house has passed on. Will Cullington was killed in an auto accident on January 6, [sic] 1918, and buried in the French Cemetery at the capital city of the old Duchy of Burgundy on the 10th [sic]. I did not know of it until Saturday when I had to go to the capital on business and remained until Monday. Sunday morning I went to the hospital, where I spent two very pleasant weeks in September last, to see my nurse, and learned of Will's accident then. His was the first death in our battalion, and having known him for six or seven years and talked with him almost daily (he worked in Stagg) for the past four years, and roomed with him here for two months, makes me feel sad indeed. He was a fine chap and of very fine character. The accident, I am told, was due to ice on the roads covered by a light fall of snow, and the truck skidded over the wall on the edge of a cliff, falling twenty-five or thirty feet.

Cyrus L. Burke

CYRUS L. BURKE, Wire Chief of the Elmira Exchange, died of pneumonia January 17, at his home, Elmira, N. Y.

He entered the service of the New York & Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company at Elmira in 1899; started work as a Groundman, later became a Lineman and Repairman, and was transferred to the switchboard department at Elmira in 1904.

During the year 1907 he was transferred to Syracuse, where he worked as Switchboard Wireman and Inspector in the various exchanges of the Central Division until December, 1913, when he was transferred to Elmira in the position of Central Office Inspector. October 1, 1916, he was appointed Wire Chief of the Elmira Exchange, which position he held until his death.

C. L. Burke

"Cy," as he was known all over the Division, was of a most genial disposition, beloved by his associates. His loyalty and ability made him a most valuable man in the organization.

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Conrad Philip Hazen

THE name of Lieutenant Conrad Philip Hazen has been added to the honor roll of the Government and of the New York Telephone Company, as one who has died in the service of the country. The casualty list sent by General Pershing, appearing in the newspapers of February 16, showed that Lieutenant Hazen, of New York, a member of the Signal Corps, died on February 11, as the result of an airplane accident. His work of service was cut short all too soon, for he had performed well his duty, entering

Conrad Philip Hazen

the work with enthusiasm and high courage and meeting the responsibilities in a spirit of serious endeavor to be of value to his country.

For three years Mr. Hazen was in the employ of the New York Telephone Company, advancing rapidly from one position to another. In June, 1913, he was engaged by the Company as an installer, and continued in this capacity until March, 1914, when he was transferred to the Central Office. Again in March, 1916, the position of a supervisor in the Construction Force was opened to him. His work was interrupted in the summer of 1916, however, by a call to duty of the National Guard, and he spent several months on the Mexican border as a Lieutenant of the 71st Regiment, of New York. Upon his return to New York he again took up his work in the Equipment Engineering Force, where he remained until the outbreak of the war.

A desire to enter the Aviation Corps caused him to resign his commission in the 71st Regiment in the summer of 1917, and take the course in flying at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He was one of the thirteen men, out of a class of twenty-eight, who graduated. In his opinion this was the stiffest course of study he had ever taken. He was deeply interested in the work, and eagerly looked forward to the next step in the course, which he expected would be in either France or Egypt. However, his appointment to active service took him to France, shortly after his marriage to Miss Catherine Metzger. A few days before the notice of his death appeared, friends received a letter from Mr. Hazen saying that he had made his first flight in France.

Lieutenant Hazen was born on April 7, 1884, in Norwich, Vermont. He was graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree of B. S., Class of 1907. He subsequently spent one year at Columbia University in the study of mechanics and electricity. For a short time he was draftsman and estimator for the Otis Elevator Company, and he also had the position of shaft engineer for the Underpinning and Foundation Company.

The words of a co-worker are a tribute: "Mr. Hazen was a very quiet, earnest worker. His character impressed itself upon all who came in contact with him."

Survivors of the *Tuscania*

TWO of the members of the 213th Aero Squadron, aboard the troopship *Tuscania* when it was torpedoed by a German submarine off the north coast of Ireland on February 5, were Leo. W. Harp and William A. Rae. Mr. Harp, at the time of his enlistment on December 3, 1917, was Wire Chief's Clerk in the Portchester Exchange, and Mr. Rae was an installer in the Manhattan-Bronx Division when he was drafted September 27, 1917.

Fortunately, both of these men were among the number that was saved.

The survivors who reached Southampton on the 20th were given a great demonstration as an expression of sympathy and to show the high esteem in which the American soldiers are held by the British public. Arriving by special train, they marched, headed by bands, through streets lined with cheering crowds, and later attended a gala performance in the theatre. The mayor and the city officials welcomed them and wished them godspeed on their mission. The Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes were flying from public buildings during the visit, and the performance in the theatre was attended by the consular representatives of many nations.

John A. Peyton

WHILE in the service of the country John A. Peyton, 22 years old, a former employee of the New York Telephone Company, contracted pneumonia and died after a short illness on January 17, at the Brooklyn Naval Hospital. Before he enlisted for duty in the Naval Reserve, Mr. Peyton was engaged as a bookkeeper in the New Jersey Accounting Center at Newark. In 1901 he was first employed in the Company

John A. Peyton

as a messenger in the Public Telephone Department, and from there he was transferred to the General Manager's Office; in 1903 he entered upon permanent work in the Accounting Department.

Mr. Peyton was for three years a member of the Twenty-second Regiment, New York National Guard, where he gained distinction for himself and won three medals as a sharpshooter. At the time of the formation of the Signal Corps Reserve by the Company, he volunteered for service, but to his great regret he was not accepted in that branch. Immediately afterward he enlisted in the Naval Reserve and was assigned to duty in the transport service. His first task in the Navy was in connection with the preparation of transport ships for trips to France. The latter part of last year he sailed in a transport which was carrying a large number of troops to a debarkation port in France. Before his return he visited England, where he witnessed an air raid on London by a large fleet of enemy airplanes.

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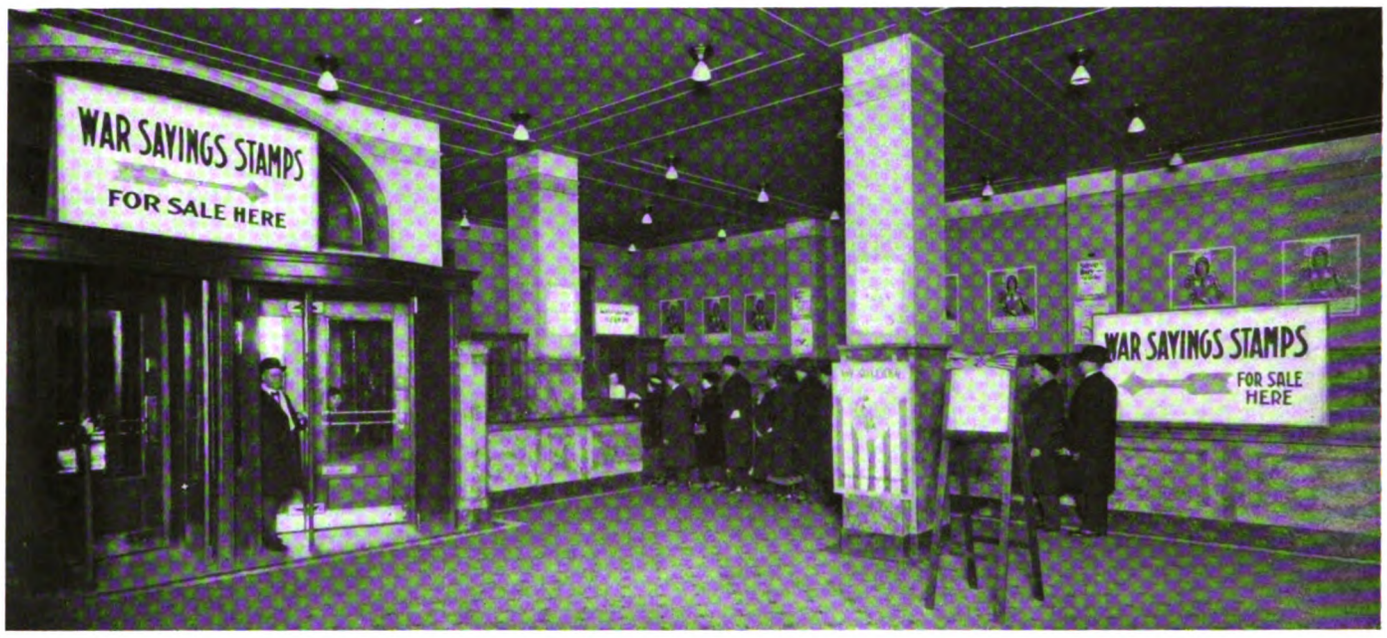

Portion of the Local Commercial Office in Buffalo, now devoted to the sale of War Savings and Thrift Stamps. On the easel in the foreground is an Honor Roll containing the names of all the employees in the Western Division who are in the military service of the country

Luxuries and Necessities

"WE have reached the time in our national life," writes Cardinal Gibbons, "when no loyal citizen in the country can afford to spend a dollar for wasteful luxuries. Such an expenditure resolves itself into a disloyal act."

In an address to the State Directors of War Savings during a reception to them at the White House, President Wilson said:

"I want to thank you for what you are undertaking. I suppose not many fortunate by-products can come out of a war, but if this country can learn something about savings out of the war, it will be worth the cost of the war; I mean the literal cost of it in money and resources. I suppose we have several times overwasted more than we are now about to spend. We have not known that there was any limit to our resources; we are now finding out that there may be if we are not careful."

The financial needs of the country and of our allies must be placed ahead of our personal luxuries and conveniences. How great these needs will be only time will tell, but it is certain that demands will be made upon us over and over again until they are fully met and at last the needs exist no longer. Then and only then may our incomes and resources be used by us as carelessly as formerly.

"Carelessly" is just the word. We are discovering, if we never realized it before, that because our money does not go as far as it used to, we are able to live comfortably without many things such as Cardinal Gibbons calls "wasteful luxuries," and we are coming to realize also, that they were luxuries and not, as we may have thought, necessities.

Luxuries may be described as what we can do without, and necessities as the absolute essentials. If in our respective spheres of life we base our expenditures upon our necessities and invest what we save in War Savings and Thrift Stamps, we shall find that our privations are not so great as they will be if, as President Wilson says, "we are not careful." Moreover, we shall have our money back at the end of five years, that is, in 1923, and for every War Savings Stamp which costs us this month $4.14 we shall receive $5.00.

Thrift Stamps costing twenty-five cents each will be redeemed at any time at the price paid, and War Savings Stamps may be redeemed prior to maturity at the current sales price.

War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps are on sale at all commercial offices of the New York Telephone Company.

Time Extended Until April 1 for Making Income Tax Returns

AT the request of the Government a notice was enclosed with our February bills to all subscribers, calling attention to the "imperative necessity" of making income tax returns on incomes of $1,000 or over, in the case of single persons, and $2,000 or over, in the case of married persons.

This notice, and also the articles which have been appearing in this magazine, stated that all tax returns for the year 1917 must be made before March 1. The time has been extended one month, however, until April 1,—a welcome respite, no doubt, to many who are struggling with the intricacies of the problem. It is very important that the blanks should be filled out accurately, as well as that they should be in the hands of the revenue collector by April 1. We recommend, therefore, a further careful reading of the three articles which we printed in December, January, and February.

If your return is not made by April 1, the joke will be on you!

One subscriber who received a notice with his bill sent the following reply:

Dear Sir:
I let you know that Michael Ferro has five (5) kids and he dond think that he will Make $1,000 a year ecepily this year.

But he has a telephone, which only the "prosperous" can afford in other countries.

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FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Employees' Benefit Fund Committee

New York Telephone Company, the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company, and Associated Companies

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1917

TO EMPLOYEES

HEREWITH is submitted a report for the year ended December 31, 1917, on the administration of the "Plan for Employees' Pension, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits" for the New York Telephone Company, The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, and their associated companies.

At the beginning of the year 1917, there was a total of 53,957 employees—21,549 men and 32,408 women.

At the end of the year 1917, there was a total of 57,760 employees—20,311 men and 37,449 women.

As to Pensions:

The number of employees placed upon the pension rolls is as follows:

During 1913		During 1914		During 1915		During 1916		During 1917	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
15	4	40	11	8	5	12	7	13	8

There were remaining on the pension rolls at the end of 1917:

	Men	Women
New York Telephone Company	41	19
The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania	24	10
The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company	7	5
Total	72	34

As to Accidents:

During the year 2,912 accidents were reported to the Company. In many cases the employee received "First Aid" treatment and did not lose any time. In the very large majority of cases, the employee returned to work within a short period.

As to Sickness:

During the year 7,047 cases of sickness were reported to the Committee. As in the case of accidents, only a very small percentage were of serious nature, the great majority being seasonal, such as influenza, et cetera.

As to Deaths:

For all the Companies the number of deaths occurring during the year was 108.

General:

Below is a statement of the total amount of payments under the Plan since its adoption:

1913, $354,336.57; 1914, $429,796.00; 1915, $453,452.32; 1916, $584,775.22; 1917, $654,303.55; total, $2,476,663.66.

Following are reports of the certificates of audits of the Benefit Funds for the year ended December 31, 1917, which were made in accordance with the requirements of the Plan.

In submitting this report, the Committee again desires to express its appreciation of the splendid co-operation of the various heads of departments and employees generally in connection with the administration of the Benefit Plan and urges continued and increased efforts to promote the health and safety of the employees of the Companies.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee and by its order,

J. S. KENNEDY, *Secretary.* F. H. BETHELL, *Chairman.*

195 Broadway, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the New York Telephone Company:

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Credit Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$2,000,000.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	72,433.53
Additional Appropriations	355,505.61
Total Credits	$2,427,939.14
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	$23,276.50
Accident Disability Benefits	54,484.12
Sickness Disability Benefits	290,571.94
Death Benefits	43,686.73
Disability Expenses	15,919.85
Total Debits	$427,939.14
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$2,000,000.00

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) S. A. RICHARDSON,
Traveling Auditor for
American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

February 4, 1918.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the Empire City Subway Company (Limited):

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, effective January 1, 1913 (and amended May 1, 1914), I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" as established and maintained by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$25,000.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	720.89
Additional Appropriations	16,252.80
Reimbursements from other System Corporations	90.00
Total Credits	$42,063.69
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	$2,979.54
Accident Disability Benefits	7,421.41
Sickness Disability Benefits	3,900.16
Death Benefits	1,092.00
Disability Expenses	1,670.58
Total Payments	$17,063.69
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$25,000.00

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above

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summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,
Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.
January 18, 1918.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the Electrical Securities and Construction Company:

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" as established and maintained by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$2,060.40
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	83.23
Total Credits	$2,143.63
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	.....
Accident Disability Benefits	.....
Sickness Disability Benefits	.....
Death Benefits	.....
Disability Expenses	.....
Total Payments	.....
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$2,143.63

I hereby certify that the credits, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,
Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.
January 17, 1918.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the Friendship Telephone Company:

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, effective January 1, 1913 (and amended May 1, 1914), I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" as established and maintained by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$4,488.51
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	180.67
Additional Appropriations	.....
Total Credits	$4,669.18
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	.....
Accident Disability Benefits	.....
Sickness Disability Benefits	$84.00
Death Benefits	.....
Disability Expenses	.....
State Insurance	24.51
Total Payments	$108.51
State Insurance accrued and unpaid in 1917, transferred to Accrued Liabilities not due	10.00
Total Debits	$118.51
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$4,550.67

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,
Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.
January 8, 1918.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the Allegany County Telephone Company:

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, effective January 1, 1913 (and amended May 1, 1914), I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" as established and maintained by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$1,800.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	56.30
Additional Appropriations	703.79
Total Credits	$2,560.09
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	.....
Accident Disability Benefits	.....
Sickness Disability Benefits	$142.67
Death Benefits	.....
Disability Expenses	.....
State Insurance	652.25
Total Payments	$794.92
State Insurance accrued and unpaid in 1917, transferred to Accrued Liabilities not due	40.00
Total Debits	$834.92
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$1,725.17

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,
Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.
January 11, 1918.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the Otsego and Delaware Telephone Company:.

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, effective January 1, 1913 (and amended May 1, 1914), I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" as established and maintained by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$3,420.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	95.79
Additional Appropriations	1,286.84
Total Credits	$4,802.63
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	.....
Accident Disability Benefits	$134.67
Sickness Disability Benefits	433.21
Death Benefits	.....
Disability Expenses	.....
State Insurance	1,327.04
Total Payments	$1,894.92
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$2,907.71

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,
Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.
January 14, 1918.

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CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the Wayne Telephone Company:

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by your Company, effective January 1, 1913 (and amended May 1, 1914), I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" as established and maintained by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$3,600.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	117.15
Additional Appropriations	1,148.34
Total Credits	$4,865.49
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	.....
Accident Disability Benefits	$61.38
Sickness Disability Benefits	131.71
Death Benefits	.....
Disability Expenses	3.00
State Insurance	1,069.40
Total Payments	$1,265.49
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$3,600.00

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,

Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.

January 12, 1918.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

15 Dey Street, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of the 195 Broadway Corporation:

THE "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits" has been adopted by your Company but no appropriation has been authorized for establishing and maintaining an "Employees' Benefit Fund." I have audited the disbursements made by your Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following report:

	Amount
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	.....
Accident Disability Benefits	$354.84
Sickness Disability Benefits	72.81
Death Benefits	.....
Disability Expenses	14.00
Total Payments	$441.65

As an Employees' Benefit Fund has not been authorized by your Company, the amount of the disbursements summarized above has been charged to Account 885-01, Relief Department and Pensions—Employees' Benefit Plan Payments.

I hereby certify that the disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) B. M. WILSON,

Chief Traveling Auditor for New York Telephone Company.

January 18, 1918.

195 Broadway, New York.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania and Associated Companies:

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, The Delaware and Atlantic Telegraph and Telephone Company, The Central District Telephone Company, and the Diamond State Telephone Company, I have audited the "Employees' Benefit Fund" for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following consolidated report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Credit Balance in Fund January 1, 1917	$775,000.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	28,479.51
Additional Appropriations	127,103.22
Total Credits	$930,582.73
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	$12,104.37
Accident Disability Benefits	20,721.10
Sickness Disability Benefits	80,840.84
Death Benefits	26,654.35
Disability Expenses	15,273.95
Total Debits	$155,594.61
Reimbursements from other System Corporations (Cr.)	11.88
Net Debits	$155,582.73
Balance in Fund December 31, 1917	$775,000.00

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) S. A. RICHARDSON,

Traveling Auditor for
American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

January 28, 1918.

To the Employees' Benefit Fund Committee of The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and Associated Companies:

195 Broadway, New York.

PURSUANT to appointment and in accordance with the provisions of the "Plan for Employees' Pensions, Disability Benefits and Death Benefits," adopted by The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of New York, The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City, The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia, and The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of West Virginia, I have audited the combined "Employees' Benefit Fund" for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917, and submit the following consolidated report:

Employees' Benefit Fund, Year 1917

	Amount
Credit Balance in combined Fund January 1, 1917	$261,550.00
Added January 1, 1917, by The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of West Virginia	53,000.00
Credits during year 1917:	
By Interest at 4%	11,393.47
Additional Appropriations	59,388.21
Total Credits	$385,331.68
Disbursements during year 1917:	
For Pensions	$3,592.66
Accident Disability Benefits	11,795.55
Sickness Disability Benefits	35,456.74
Death Benefits	14,689.00
Disability Expenses	5,247.73
Total Debits	$70,781.68
Balance in Combined Fund December 31, 1917	$314,550.00

I hereby certify that the credits and disbursements, as above summarized, do, in my judgment, conform to the provisions of the Plan adopted, and that all the disbursements have been authorized by the Committee and receipted for by, or on behalf of, the payees.

(Signed) S. A. RICHARDSON,

Traveling Auditor for
American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

January 28, 1918.

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Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Katherine C. Acker, senior operator, Greeley, appointed supervisor.

Miss Alvina Beyers, senior operator, Greeley, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Clare, senior operator, Columbus, appointed supervisor.

Miss Harriet Cohen, night senior operator, Lenox, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Marcella T. Diffley, senior operator, Cathedral, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Fischer, evening information bureau senior operator, Murray Hill information bureau, appointed evening information bureau supervisor.

Miss Ellen Healy, evening senior operator, Chelsea, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Esther Johnson, senior operator, Rector, appointed supervisor.

Miss Isabel Kennedy, senior operator, John, appointed supervisor.

Miss Martha E. Klaus, senior operator, Broad, appointed supervisor.

Miss Florence Richards, evening senior operator, Harlem, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Katherine Quinn, information bureau senior operator, Murray Hill information bureau, appointed information bureau supervisor.

Miss Nora D. Rogers, senior operator, Spring, appointed supervisor.

Miss Delia L. Sullivan, senior operator, Plaza, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna L. Ruddy, senior operator, Plaza, appointed supervisor.

Miss Ruth Smith, evening senior operator, Riverside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mabel Van Pelt, senior operator, Farragut, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna S. Waag, senior operator, Melrose, appointed supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth Wighaus, senior operator, Orchard, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mae Woods, evening senior operator, Harlem, appointed evening supervisor.

Accounting Department

G. O. Keutgen appointed disbursement methods supervisor, vice L. K. Frank, resigned to enter war service.

C. A. Meaker appointed reports supervisor.

J. P. McEwen appointed voucher supervisor.

J. A. Moir appointed payroll supervisor.

H. A. Whitaker appointed general books supervisor.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mazie B. Bradley, senior operator, Bedford, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen P. Davis, evening supervisor, Bedford, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Margaret Geraghty, night operator, Flushing, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Mary J. Harkins, evening supervisor, Long Island toll board, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Rose V. Johnston, night senior operator, Flatbush, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Edna Kindt, evening senior operator, Bushwick, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Elise F. Kjeer, evening senior operator, Bushwick, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary F. Mulvihill, senior operator, Long Island toll board, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Teresa E. Shea, night operator, Newton, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Mabel B. Wahler, night senior operator, Evergreen, appointed night supervisor.

Accounting Department

Miss M. V. Coughlin, senior toll clerk, Harlem office, appointed assistant instructor, Toll Division School.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

Miss Elizabeth Conlon, senior operator, New Brunswick, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary E. Crimmins, evening supervisor, Branch Brook, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Edna Davis, evening senior operator, Montgomery, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Lydia Hawkins, night operator, Lakewood, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Katherine Hess, senior operator, Union, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Lucy McCormack, night operator, Arlington, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Marie McKevitt, night senior operator, Market, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Kathryn Morahan, evening chief operator, Orange, appointed assistant chief operator, Market.

Miss Althea Tunison, operator, Bound Brook, appointed night chief operator.

Accounting Department

Miss Loretta Madden, senior toll clerk, appointed toll supervisor.

Plant Department

Jacob Lepore, mason, appointed subway foreman, Construction Department.

George A. Phelan, Jr., insideman, appointed wire chief, Branch Brook, Newark District.

Thomas R. Wynne, insideman, appointed wire chief, Waverly, Newark District.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

Miss May F. Nolan appointed chief operator, Port Chester.

Miss Catherine V. Sheridan appointed evening chief operator, Dobbs Ferry.

The following operators have gone to Washington:

Miss Jane E. Barrett, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Miss Catherine B. Brennan, Portchester, N. Y.

Miss Madeline A. Brennan, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Miss Ann R. Buckley, Yonkers, N. Y.

Miss Julia C. Grady, Yonkers, N. Y.

Miss Vera Graves, Larchmont, N. Y.

Miss Irene R. Greer, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Miss May B. McCarthy, Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Miss Mary M. McCarthy, Yonkers, N. Y.

Miss Margaret A. E. McCarthy, Tarrytown, N. Y.

Miss Josephine V. Murphy, Yonkers, N. Y.

Miss Esther I. Scully, Yonkers, N. Y.

Miss May G. Soles, Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Central Division

Plant Department

O. P. Babcock, lineman, appointed clerk in installation supervisor's office, Elmira.

William A. Buddenhagen, groundman, appointed clerk in construction supervisor's office, Elmira.

Traffic Department

Mildred O'Connor, evening senior operator, Syracuse-Warren, appointed evening supervisor.

Western Division

Commercial Department

E. M. Gladden, division commercial engineer, Central, appointed division commercial engineer, Western, vice Joseph Lillich.

Joseph Lillich, commercial engineer, appointed to special work under Mr. Gladden.

H. R. Waterbury, commercial engineer, appointed to special work under Mr. Gladden.

Traffic Department

Miss Harriett Barry, Buffalo Howard, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Mabelle F. Burley, Buffalo toll supervisor, transferred to office of division traffic engineer, clerk.

Miss Frances Chambers, Rochester Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Gertrude DeYot, Buffalo toll, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Anna M. Kirby, Buffalo Seneca, information clerk, appointed clerk, Buffalo toll.

Miss Estella M. Lerch, Honeoye Falls, appointed chief operator.

Miss Sarah Quill, Buffalo toll, appointed senior operator.

Miss Florence M. Schreiber, Buffalo toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Cora S. Smith, clerk, office of division superintendent of traffic, transferred to Buffalo North, chief clerk.

Miss Mabel G. Wood, Buffalo toll, appointed evening senior operator.

Indoor Golf

THE Third Indoor Golf Putting Contest of the 1917-18 season was held at the Telephone Club on Monday evening, January 14. A fifth leg on the F. H. Bethell Interdepartmental Team Trophy was won by the commercial department, thus giving them permanent possession of the cup.

The following were members in one or more contests of the successful team: H. B. Fenn, F. H. Fuller, H. A. Kling, D. H. McAllister, S. A. Miller, J. G. Orr, C. F. Smith, and G. C. Tompkins.

The prize winners and a list of the prizes in the last contest are:

Low Score Qualifying, S. A. Miller, umbrella; 2nd Low Score Qualifying, M. C. Garrabraut, box of cigars; Match Class A, H. E. Back, 4 neckties; Match Class B, H. A. Kling, military brushes; Medal Class B, G. B. Seddon, leather cigarette case; Match Class C, C. R. Hamilton, muffler; Medal Class C, A. H. Buck, order for gloves; Match Class D, R. P. Bunyan, fountain pen; Medal Class D. C. P. Pausley, knife.

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

Rate Too Low as Detrimental to Public as Rate Too High

THE New York Public Service Commission, Second District, in passing upon the proposed increase of passenger fares on the Long Island Railroad, stated that the Commissions were created for the purpose of doing justice to the public utilities and the public alike, and that the best interests of both require fair treatment of both, and that a rate too low was as much an injustice and detriment to the public as a rate too high. That it was in the public interest that public utilities should be kept solvent and efficient throughout the war, and that, therefore, where under existing rates a carrier was not earning a sufficient sum to pay operating expenses, and to provide for surplus and contingencies, and to give the investors a fair return, such rates should be fixed as would yield the necessary revenue.

Telephone Company's Rule Making Allowance for But One Suspension of Service a Year Reasonable

ELIZABETH FICHANDLER, of Brooklyn, a party line subscriber of the New York Telephone Company, complained to the Commission that at her request the Company had discontinued her service from June 30, 1917 until August 8, 1917, and from August 11, 1917 to August 30, 1917, but had refused to make her any allowance for the second period of suspension. The Company answered that under its tariffs filed with the Commission, no allowance was made for more than one suspension of service on a party line during the contract year, and that such allowance may cover a period of not to exceed four months.

It appeared that the Company was subjected to considerable expense in making these disconnections for party line subscribers, and for reconnecting them when they desired to again have service. The Commission, therefore, held that the Company's present practice of allowing for but one suspension during a contract year was not unjust or unreasonable, and that the complaint must therefore be dismissed.

Public Utility Will Not Be Compelled to Continue Operations at a Loss

THE Batesville Gas Company of Indiana applied to the Public Service Commission of that state for authority to discontinue its service of natural gas to Batesville, and to remove its pipe lines and equipment. The company represented that its gross annual income was less than the expense of operation, and that no dividends had ever been paid, and there was no prospect of the payment of any on the paid up capital of $24,000. The City of Batesville objected, alleging that the company's franchise obligated it to furnish service, and that its rates had recently been increased under agreement with the city and with the approval of the Commission. The city further maintained that the consumers had been put to considerable expense in preparing to receive service from the company; that there was a scarcity of other fuels and that, therefore, a supply of natural gas was a necessity.

The Commission overruled the objections of the city, holding that money invested in the securities of public utilities was loaned to the public, and that if the investment failed for a number of years to pay a return, and the element of safety gradually disappeared, the investor had just and reasonable ground for complaint. That, therefore, since the evidence showed that the company had sustained losses of substantial amount, and since it appeared that a rate sufficient to pay a fair return and to allow for depreciation and operating and maintenance expenses would be prohibitive, the application should be granted as the Commission would not compel a public utility to continue operations at a loss. That, moreover, since applicant had surrendered the franchise granted by the city and had expressed a willingness to surrender its charter to the state, there was no reason and no law that would prevent it from withdrawing its property from public use.

Present Not the Time to Construct New Railroad Station

EDWARD WYNN and others complained to the Corporation Commission of Oklahoma that the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company had failed to comply with a previous order of the Commission, directing it to construct a new station at Indianapolis, Oklahoma. The railroad company answered that war conditions made it imperative that a policy of conservation be adopted in everything which did not have to do with the movement of food and war supplies, and that its resources were being taxed to maintain its roadbed, rolling stock, and facilities.

The Commission held that the matter must, therefore, be held in abeyance for the time being, since it was reluctant to order railroad companies to proceed with the construction of depots at this time when patriotism demands that every energy be expended toward the conservation of resources and the prompt handling and shipment of foodstuffs and everything else which tends to facilitate war preparations or to feed the people.

Particular Person Toll Service Not Justifiable Between Short Distance Points

HIRAM E. STEINMETZ complained to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania, that The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania had refused to connect him with a particular person on a call from Ephrata to Reading, and had insisted that if the connection be made, the call must be paid for regardless of whether or not the individual especially asked for responded. It appeared that Ephrata was nineteen miles from Reading by railroad and sixteen miles by the wires of the Telephone Company.

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The Commission dismissed the complaint, pointing out that to secure a particular person involved the use of the wires, exchanges, and employees of the Telephone Company, and the making of a record not only of the number called, but also of the names of the caller and the person sought, and that, moreover, should the particular person sought not be within reach, a record of said fact must be made and a report of the failure transmitted. This all involves time, trouble, and expense. Therefore, the company cannot be required to give particular person service to short distance points. Where, however, the distance is great and the toll charge heavy, the Company should and does run the risk of securing the connection, rendering the service, and obtaining the recompense.

Municipality Cannot Permanently Fix Rates in a Franchise

IN dismissing the complaint of the trustees of the Village of South Glens Falls against the United Gas, Electric Light and Fuel Company of Sandy Hill and Fort Edward, the New York Public Service Commission, Second District, held that there was no provision in the law which in any way justified the contention that a municipality had the power to permanently fix in a franchise the rates which a gas or electric light company should charge in the territory covered by the franchise. That while a franchise restriction was good as between the parties, it was controlling as against the State only until such time as the State saw fit to prescribe a different rate. That, therefore, as provided in the Public Service Commissions Law, the Commission may, in the event that any increase is made in the franchise rates, investigate same and, if the increased rates are unreasonable, has the power to revise and reduce them. That, on the other hand, the Commission also has the power to increase franchise rates provided that the Company can show that it is not earning a sufficient amount thereunder to give it a reasonable return upon the value of the property employed by it in the public service.

Street Railway Company May Abandon Unprofitable Portion of Its Line

THE Dayton, Springfield, and Zenia Street Railway Company applied to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio for authority to abandon its so-called Spring Valley division, the operation of which had been unprofitable to both it and its predecessor. The company alleged that continued operation of said division would result in impairment of service on the whole system and, ultimately, in the company's insolvency. The Commission held that, while a common carrier in accepting its franchises assumes and must perform certain duties and obligations for the benefit of the public and must, as a general rule, maintain and operate its entire line, there are conditions which necessarily excuse full compliance with such duties and obligations. That, therefore, since it appeared that the division in question was not only not self-supporting, but that its continued operation would jeopardize the successful operation of the entire system, and since, moreover, there was little public necessity for the continued operation of said division, whereas there was great public necessity for the continued operation of the balance of the system, the application should be granted. The Commission pointed out that in enacting the statute authorizing it to permit the abandonment of part of a company's lines, the legislature vested the Commission with discretionary authority and powers and charged it with the duty of caring for and protecting the whole property of the company, having due regard to the welfare of the public, and that, since applicant was greatly in debt and had no money to make necessary repairs to the division in question, the Commission would be abusing said discretion did it knowingly do a useless and futile act by attempting to require an impossibility in ordering the continued operation of said division when there was no probability that it would ever produce sufficient revenue to meet operating expenses.

War Burden Must Be Shared Between Utility and Public

THE Booneville Electric Light and Power Company sought authority from the Public Service Commission of Indiana to add a temporary surcharge to all bills for hot water heating service. The testimony and exhibits presented by the company showed that the earnings from its hot water heating department were not sufficient to cover operating expenses and taxes because of the abnormal prices existing for coal and the advances in the cost of labor, supplies, and materials attributable to the war era. The city of Booneville protested against the proposed surcharge, alleging that if it were permitted, the cost of service in public buildings would be greater than would be the cost of heating them by individual plants. The Commission held that this did not constitute a valid objection to an emergency increase, since public utilities could not be called upon to perform services at a loss. In approving the proposed surcharge the Commission stated that the patrons of the petitioner must share with it the extraordinary cost of furnishing service during the present period of abnormal prices.

Present Abnormal Conditions in Labor and Material Markets Warrant Emergency Increase in Rates

THE Wisconsin Railroad Commission approved the application of the Waukesha Gas and Electric Company for authority to increase its rate for gas 10 cents per thousand feet for a period of six months ending June 30, 1918. The company showed that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, it had earned a return of but 2.09 per cent. on the value of its property, as compared with a return averaging well over 7 per cent. for the three preceding years, although in all four years the provision for depreciation was approximately but one-half of what was usually considered necessary. It further showed that for said year ending June 30, 1917, as compared with the three preceding years, the production expenses had increased from 16 to 20 cents per thousand feet of gas, the cost of labor from 1916 to 1917 having increased about 6 cents per thousand cubic feet, and the cost of coal about 60 cents per ton over the average price for the three preceding years. The Commission stated that in view of said testimony and of the present situation in general the proposed increase was warranted.

Before the First Engagement of Our Men in France

THE enlisted men are not the only ones to receive warnings. The Captain of my battery wanted to communicate with the battalion headquarters back of the lines.

"Where is the telephone dugout?" he asked a French officer.

"But you cannot speak English over the front line telephone," replied the Frenchman. "The Germans will hear you with the instruments which they use to tap the underground circuit."

"But you use the telephone?" the Captain observed puzzled. "How do you get by with it?"

"We speak French and we use a code," replied the Frenchman.

"I was going to use our American code," said the Captain. "I'll speak English, but if the Germans hear they will not be able to figure out what it means."

"Ah, no, my friend," replied the Frenchman, "they will not know what the message means, but your voice and language would tell the Germans this sector is occupied by Americans, and we don't wish to let them know that any sooner than necessary."—*World.*

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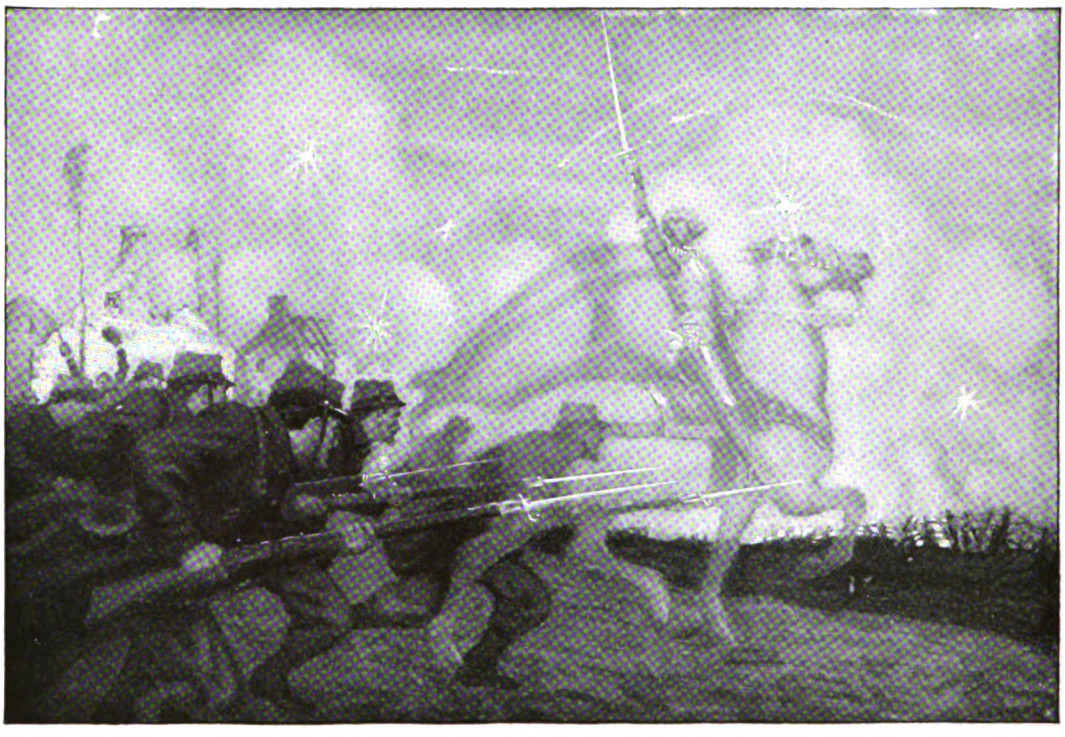

The Miracle of the Marne

The battle of the Marne halted the rush of the Germans towards Paris. It aroused the French to superhuman bravery. They fought as if led by the spirit of the Maid of Orleans herself.

The Marne was a demonstration of the power of patriotism with its back against the wall. The same sacrifice of self, the same love of country and unity of purpose that inspired the French people must inspire us, and we must win the war.

We are sending our best manhood to fight for us. They must be armed, fed and clothed, cared for through sickness and wounds. This is the work of every individual as well as the Government.

It is the proud duty of the Bell System to coordinate its purpose and equipment to the other factors in our national industrial fabric, so that the manufacture and movement of supplies to our boys abroad be given right of way.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

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NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine place a one-cent stamp on this notice, hand same to any postal employee and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers and sailors at the front. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW

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TO OUR BRAVE BOYS WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY

How sleep the Brave, who sink to rest
By all their Country's wishes blest!
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallow'd mould,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

By fairy hands their knell is rung,
By forms unseen their dirge is sung:
There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;
And Freedom shall awhile repair
To dwell a weeping hermit there!

WILLIAM COLLINS

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The TELEPHONE REVIEW

New York April 1918

Volume 9 Number 4

The TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor

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VOL. IX. APRIL, 1918 No. 4

NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
General Instructions No. 135

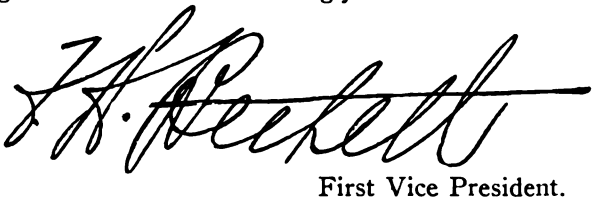
SUBJECT: Daylight Saving Plan. March 26, 1918.
EFFECTIVE: March 31, 1918.

ON March 19, 1918, President Wilson approved "An act to save daylight and to provide standard time for the United States."

Among other features the act provides that at two o'clock in the morning of the last Sunday in March, and continuing until two o'clock in the morning of the last Sunday in October of each year, the standard time governing the movement of all common carriers engaged in commerce between the several States shall be advanced one hour.

The act also provides that standard time shall apply to all statutes, orders, rules, and regulations relating to the time of performance of any act by any officer or department of the United States.

This act being applicable to the telephone service of the Bell System, all departments of the Company will comply therewith and all employees will also govern themselves accordingly.



First Vice President.

Of Interest to Employees

MR. VAIL'S Annual Reports, while intended for the stockholders of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, to whom they are addressed, are no less interesting and important to the employees of the Bell System, a majority of whom are also stockholders.

The Annual Report for 1917, just issued, is of much more than usual pertinence at this time.

It shows the accomplishments of a thoroughly efficient and financially successful public utility corporation, conducted by men of the highest ability, and operated by men and women, trained and experienced in their work.

There were on December 31, 1917, 192,364 employees in the Bell System, an increase of 13,332 during the year.

What Report Shows

THE report also shows the advantages of employment in this organization, where positions are obtained on personal qualifications, promotions are made for efficiency, and where working conditions and pay are vastly more desirable than, for example, government employees enjoy. No such comparison is made in the report, but any one reading it need only contrast what they know of the pay and working conditions of government employees they meet. More is expected of our employees, but the opportunities and rewards are greater.

Mr. Vail says:

It is the intention of the Bell System to distribute in regular wages to its employees, their full proportion of the revenue it is allowed to collect, the maximum that is being paid by others for similar services and such an amount as will secure the very best class of employees.

* * * * * * * * * *

It is necessary that the service required of the employee shall not overtax physically or mentally, and that the working conditions and opportunities for relaxation shall be of the best. Every effort has been made to create such conditions and make the work as attractive and pleasant as any continuous work can be.

Benefits

IN addition, the report shows that during 1917 there was expended by the Bell System $1,997,359 for its employees in pensions, sickness, accident, and death benefits, making a total for five years of $7,617,375.

Employees called into military service, and dependent members of their families, also received allowances aggregating $612,554.

Referring to employees, Mr. Vail says:

There is no utility so dependent upon the service rendered by the employees as is this. There is no service rendered by any corporation which is so exacting. It is largely a personal service rendered by each employee to each individual. Much depends upon the employee.

And he pays this tribute to the operators:

It is a well established fact that there are no other employees in the world who so quickly and efficiently respond in emergency and do the right thing and do it from no other impelling cause than a conception of duty.

In his general summary, Mr. Vail says:

Insufficient or ineffective utilities are directly and indirectly costly to the public. The experience the country is now passing through only emphasizes this oftentime overlooked and frequently ignored economic law.

Efficiency of Bell System Service

THERE is no question of the sufficiency and effectiveness of the service rendered by the Bell System. In fact, advocates of government ownership want the telephone system taken over not because it is poor, but because it is prosperous.

It was through no chance that the Bell System was prepared to meet our national emergency, not that any such emergency was anticipated. It was the result of the policy upon which the system is founded; that policy under which the Bell System has grown to what it is, the only policy which could have developed the telephone service as it has been developed. "Ad-

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vance," in every meaning of the word, has been the slogan. The essential feature of the Bell service is preparedness, the essential characteristic is dependency.

Although it was contemplated to spend $90,000,000 in plant additions during 1917, the Bell System actually spent $118,000,000, in order to meet the increasing needs for telephone service, and the estimate for 1918 is $90,000,000 more.

Taxes for 1917 consume $20,711,000, not including what is paid by the security holders. Regarding this, Mr. Vail says:

If from the net revenues of private operation are deducted all paid in taxes, directly by the corporation and indirectly on the securities by the holders, the balance would be no more than sufficient, if sufficient, to pay government rates of interest on the actual investment.

Essential Factors of Operation

MR. VAIL points out that the factors which are essential and controlling in the operation of private enterprise are "Financial Credit" and "Service Credit."

Financial credit is represented by the balance sheet. A private company financially is "on its own."

Service credit is represented by the employees and the service that is rendered.

In a private enterprise the employee can depend upon the permanence of his job, and progress, in exchange for good and faithful service.

The service rendered by the private enterprise to the public it serves must be sufficient and efficient.

The government is not obliged to consider the economic administration or the profitable conduct of its affairs. Through its taxes and other sources of income and its ability to borrow unlimited funds on its credit, it is in control of such enormous sums of money that deficits can be made up and public enterprises continued out of appropriations assessed upon the public. The private enterprise can not follow these policies.

There is no direct control over the government, all the agencies being governmental themselves.

As to government employees, frequent political changes and other conditions rob them of confidence in the security of their positions.

Therefore, economic and efficient operation is inconsistent with government ownership.

It will be seen, therefore, that this report is of importance to employees, whether they are stockholders or not, as well as to other investors and to the public as a whole.

Buy Liberty Bonds

"THE great events now happening in France must fire the soul of every American with a new determination to furnish all the dollars and all the material resources of America that are needed to put an end to the execrable atrocities of German militarism," said the Secretary of the Treasury, in announcing the plans for the Third Liberty Loan.

America is not awake, our critics have been saying. Can this be true? Can it be possible that there are still some of us who are willing to delay, and let the "other fellow" do it, hoping that, by the time they are ready, there will be nothing to do? Perhaps there are some who are letting others do all, while they do nothing, but they are not true Americans. Americans do not shirk. We have proved that already, and we shall prove it again by our generous subscriptions to this Liberty Loan, and by whatever other means within our power.

This is our war, and the ultimate victory will be ours, too,—not someone else's. It will be our victory, but we must all work for it. This is no time for lip-patriotism. What is wanted is action, not talk, and here is an opportunity for each and every one of us to act.

We are given another chance to show our patriotism, by subscribing to the Third Liberty Loan, of $3,000,000,000, which pays interest at the rate of 4¼ per cent. The bonds are within the reach of all.

And what will be the result? The Government will have at its disposal for immediate use, funds for carrying on the war. You will have the safest investment in the world,—and you will have acquired the habit of saving. Nay, more,—you will have staved off the day of burdensome taxation, which would surely come if the money could not be raised by loans. In taxes, your money would disappear, never to return, but in the loan, it not only remains to your credit, but is continually making more money for you! Besides, you would, at the same time, have done a loyal act. What more could any one want? Let us not fail our men, in this, the crisis in the history of the freedom of the world. Buy Liberty Bonds!

Beside the sacrifices our men are making, money looks small. But the dollar is still "mighty," and will continue to be so, for money is the motive power that sends armies, thoroughly equipped and supported, to the front. Every little bit is worth while.

The Glory of Serving

NO need to ask what our cover this month represents,—it is a tribute to the great army of faithful and efficient telephone operators. These young women are at a distance and out of the sight of the public whom they serve, but they occupy a personal relation to each individual who calls and is called, and they are giving the best telephone service in the world, thirty-two million times a day, counting Sundays and holidays.

No tribute too high can be paid to their loyalty to the service and to the public.

Behind the prescribed phrases they use is a deep and active interest in putting each call through, and the diversity of patrons robs the work of all monotony and makes it stimulating and attractive.

The New York Telephone Company is proud of its operators who are doing such noble work for the country at this time of unusual activity incident to the war.

Articles for Soldiers

MAJOR-GENERAL MARCH, acting Chief of Staff, has issued a statement forbidding the shipment of articles to troops in France unless they have been requested by the soldier himself. The packages will be refused by the post office and express companies unless accompanied by an approved request from the soldier.

Do not think from the above statement that the soldiers will be deprived of all good things. Cookies, candies, or canned goods, and many other things can be purchased by soldiers of the American Expeditionary Forces at the Y. M. C. A. recreation centers, or canteens in France, as cheaply as they can be had here. The demand of the tonnage is so great that it becomes the patriotic duty of everyone to comply with this request.

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The Home Garden Regiment

THE whole country is one great army. The soldier boys are at the front, marching with quick rhythm and erect heads, and the rest of us must fall into step in the rear ranks, maintaining the marching order and keeping up the courage and high purpose. Although all may not hear the band at the front, or the commands to advance, at least we can heed their spirit.

The command "Shoulder Arms" reaches us at home in the form "Shoulder Hoes." The trenches should be dug in every vacant lot, backyard, and unused strip of land, but instead of dropping bullets and shells into these "dugouts," only to come back as boomerangs, we have the opportunity of planting seeds that will grow and repay us several times for our efforts. It is true also that we must fight,—and fight persistently,—the bugs and worms and the blight that attack the plants, but they are enemies easily overcome by right methods and perseverance.

Those who live in the city with window boxes and flower pots as their only bit of nature are exempt from the Home Garden Regiment. But those in the suburbs, or in country districts, should realize that each one has had a personal call to duty from the Government. For the novice, catalogs and bulletins can be readily obtained from libraries, large seed houses, or by writing to the Department of Agriculture in Washington.

With the Daylight-Saving Plan this year, making it possible for the man in the office to work an hour or two in the evening, every yard should be a garden.

The first requisite of a good garden is good seed. They should be purchased carefully with due regard to varieties and locations in which they may grow to advantage. Don't buy seeds for experimental purposes, merely to assure yourself or your neighbors that a freak variety or some special vegetable can be cultivated in that vicinity. Plant an old-fashioned home garden with potatoes, beans, beets in abundance, or corn, tomatoes, peas, lettuce, carrots, squash, turnips, some or all, as your experience and land may warrant.

Plan your garden with forethought. Be sure it is well fertilized, or if it is damp, soggy land, that lime has been worked in after the fertilizer has been mixed in the soil. Decide before planting whether your plot will get sufficient sunlight, adequate drainage, and whether it can be protected from destructive winds and equally destructive stray animals.

With a spade, a hoe, and a rake, as implements of war, the garden should take shape, grow, and prove a success, that is, if each one of these tools is regularly and energetically applied. Your potatoes should be potatoes this year, not round marbles, as they were last year, and your corn should have large ears, not little "nubbins" that have neglected to grow.

Eventually a great pride in the garden will develop, not accounted for entirely by the fact that yours excels the one "next door," or that you have had a good dinner of fresh vegetables, or that you arrive at work every day bright and alert, mentally and physically fit because of good outdoor exercise. The real reason for your enthusiasm will be in the fact that by growing a garden you are marching ahead in the direction of victory, and rendering service to the country. The United States Department of Agriculture has sent forth these two bits of counsel. "Fresh vegetables must be used to lessen home consumption of staple foods needed by troops and the Allies." "Every family must help feed itself." Don't be a slacker on this score. Join the Home Garden Regiment.

A Message from the Front

"WE have been here in the 3rd Aviation Instruction Center now for about four months, doing aviation school work and awaiting our turn to be distributed to the various schools in Europe where Americans are being trained to fly, in France, and Italy, and England.

"It has been a wonderful experience, and although I have been here before, it takes the war to make one realize what a nation France is. The people have been welded into a nation, sure in their purpose, quiet, steady, and developing all their resources to the utmost.

"I wish every man, woman, and child in the good old States were the same. I know that we, as a nation, are at last awake, but we are not straining to the utmost. We must! It is a great job, and worthy of all we've got."

These are the words of H. Llewelyn Roberts, one of our men, preparing to strike a blow at the Kaiser and his kind "over there." For him and for his comrades there is no turning aside from the big goal. No love of ease or comfort, no longing to be home with his friends, no weak heart or faint purpose is holding them back from doing their utmost. They have put self in the background and with love and loyalty are following the Stars and Stripes, giving "all they've got."

And we, on whom they depend,—are we doing our share? We are "awake," he says, but "not straining to the utmost." Perhaps some of us are not. Right in the hands of each and everyone of us is the golden chance to prove to our boys and to the world that we, too, can work faithfully for the country that needs each little bit that all and every one of us can do, and needs it well done. Let us not fail them.

We Will Not Fail Them

"KEEPING the line open!" We who are at home, safe for the present at least, do not and cannot realize what these words mean to the telephone man at the front, who knows that upon his work depends very largely the success or failure of our troops who are going "over the top." With the lines of communication broken, the power of directing batteries, calling for reserves, coöperating with other divisions and with headquarters, is gone, and we are at the mercy of the foe.

Everywhere in the war zone the telephone engineer is working, night and day, and the repair squads are regarded by both the Allies and the Germans as among the bravest men of the army. All practical men, taken, for the most part from the telephone service in civilian life, they have a certain pride and patriotism in keeping the line open, with the result that incident after incident is reported of their wonderful bravery and fearlessness.

Among twelve American soldiers who fell in an engagement in the Luneville sector, between February 22 and March 21, and who were cited for bravery by the French commander, is numbered Private Alexander B. Burns, Downers Grove, Illinois, of the Illinois Artillery. His story is short, but strikes home, revealing another glimpse of the glorious sacrifice our men are making in this most awful of wars. The newspaper reports:

> Burns was read into the army orders for keeping the telephone wires to the artillery repaired for two days and nights under the hottest of shell fire. Wires were shot from his hands as he worked. On the third night he received a fatal shrapnel wound.

That is all, but we can read between the lines, and feel again the spirit that burns within our men. Shall we do less than they?

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From Our Boys in the Service to Their Friends "Back Home"

From the Front to an American Camp

DAYS pass in quick succession, and our boys, who, less than a year ago, were engrossed in the daily round of civilian life, are now at, or immediately behind, the firing line. Some of them, to judge by the following letter, have been there and back. Needless to say, the tales told by these "veterans" are listened to with awe and envy, while the demand for trophies can not be supplied. M. E. Murgatroyd, of the 11th Engineers, writes that he regretted the fact that he was not told his destination, for, he says, "If we knew where we were coming, we would have brought enough souvenirs to make us rich."

In a "Side-Door Pullman"

France, Jan. 31, 1918.

WEDNESDAY, 5 A. M.

Wednesday morning, and we are well on our way. We broke camp about eleven o'clock yesterday morning and marched down to the train. It was only about ten minutes' walk, but it was hard work, as we have not had a pack on in quite a while and it felt heavy. I carried a lantern, too, which made it more clumsy.

We were assigned to our respective "side-door pullmans" and immediately began making preparations for the night. We got a small stove and some stove pipe from a salvage dump nearby and set it up with the pipe going out the door and then to the roof.

Then, as the train showed no signs of starting, we acquired a bale of hay from another train. (Anything that is borrowed while the guard who is watching it and has his back turned is "acquired.") This, spread on the floor, made a good bed. It was a great looking train by the time we were finished fixing up; stove pipe sticking out of all the doors, and packs, guns, tin hats, gas masks, and other junk hanging all over inside made it look like a hock shop on wheels.

One fellow in our car brought a piece of canvas, which he is using as a hammock. That makes more room for the fellows on the floor. We are not packed in like the last time. There are seventeen in a car, which permits almost everybody to lie straight, with no one on top of some part of him.

We sat around the stove, singing some of the old songs, until about eight o'clock, and then stretched out for a bumpy sleep. I woke a little before five, took a look outside, but could not see anything for fog, so started to write this. More later.

A NEW VIEW OF FRANCE

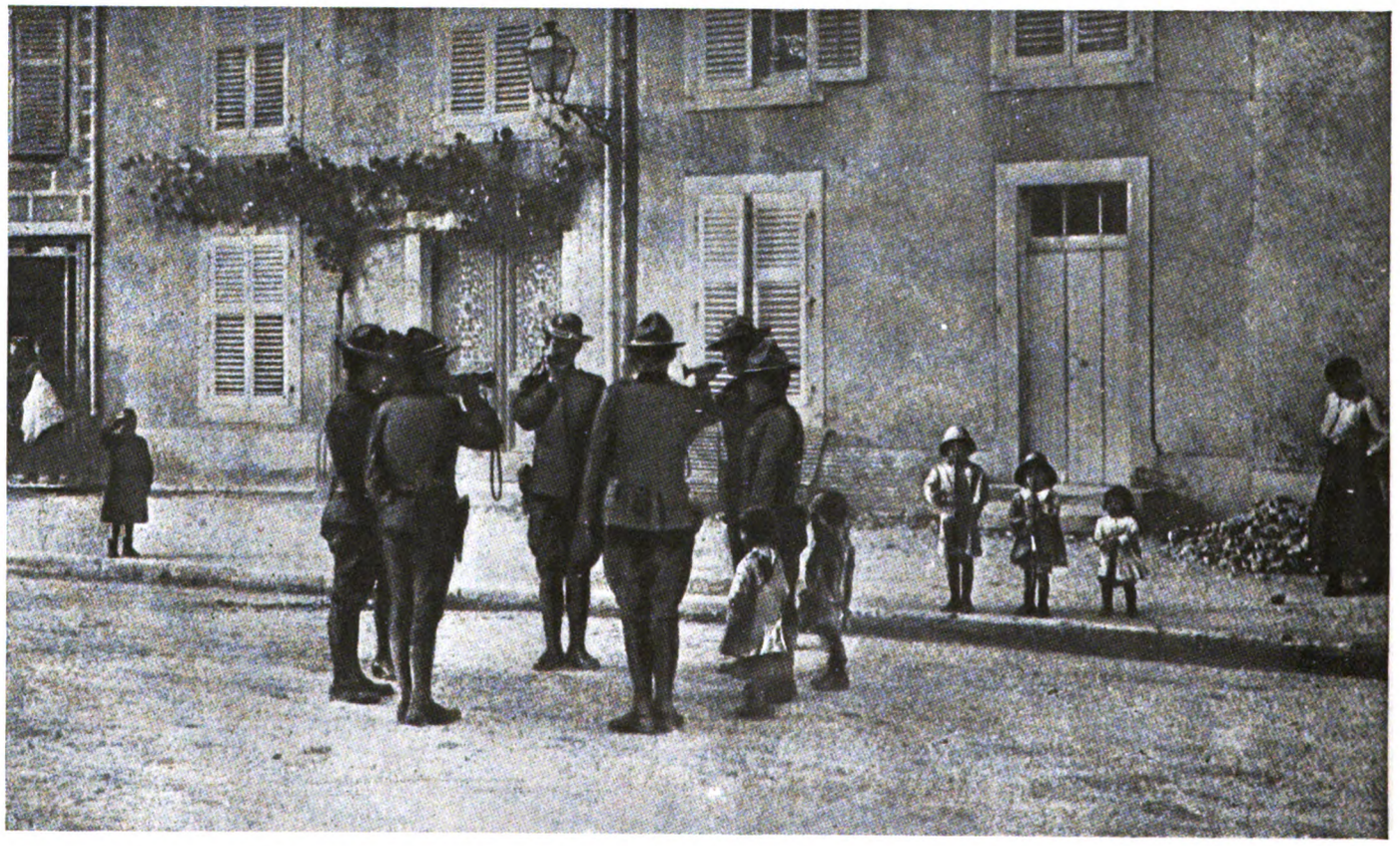
Ten A. M. The train pulled in a siding of a big yard about seven o'clock and stopped long enough for us to have breakfast, which the cooks had managed to hold on the stove long enough to cook. We were off again by eight. We thought we would pass through Paris, but we went around instead.

When the fog lifted, it was like waking in a new country. It is a different France from what we have seen so far. It is great to see towns that have not been shot to pieces and fields that are not covered with shell-holes and trenches. The rolling country has given place to higher hills, valleys, and woodland.

The towns are very quaint. The houses are all built of brick or stucco with slate or red tile roofs. No place seems to be complete without a high stone wall capped with more red tile. Sometimes two or three houses are surrounded by one wall. There are a great many farms, and preparations for spring are well under way.

AIRPLANES AS THICK AS BIRDS

Three P. M. We stopped in the yards just outside of a fair-sized town for dinner, and started south again about two o'clock. The majority of roads are bordered with trees which make them look pretty and, I guess, feel very comfortable in the warm weather. The country has flattened out and is now a big prairie. It is almost level as far as we can see. We passed an aviation field a while ago, and the planes were as thick as birds, although they were not as high as we have been used to seeing them. The stove is smoking something fierce. I feel and probably look like a smoked ham.



THE "STAR-SPANGLED BANNER" AT SUNDOWN IN A LITTLE VILLAGE IN FRANCE

Le Miroir of Paris, from which this picture is reproduced, says the American troops have endeared themselves to the little children of France, and each day at half-past five, when retreat is sounded, our soldiers are surrounded by their little comrades who gravely present their little wooden guns

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"HOME" AGAIN IN AN AMERICAN CAMP

Thursday, P. M. We stopped for supper about five o'clock last night and were off again at five-thirty. We were told to pack up, as we would be at our destination at seven. I had not unrolled my pack so did not have much to get ready. We arrived on time, were pushed on a siding and told we could stay in the cars all night. We were up at four-thirty this morning and had the train unloaded by eight.

We worked all morning getting things straightened out and our cots and baggage placed in a big warehouse that is to be our home for the time being. We are in an American camp and it is good to be with our own boys again.

We are the only ones here who have been at the front, and we are telling stories a mile a minute about what it feels like to be under shell fire or a "Fritz" plane that is trying to drop a load of bombs where they will be most effective.

One fellow has a "boche" rifle and has had a crowd around him all day looking it over and offering all kinds of money for it. If we had known where we were coming we would all have brought enough souvenirs to make us rich.

With best regards to the employees of the Company, I remain,

Yours truly,
M. E. MURGATROYD,
Company A, 11th Engineers
American Expeditionary Forces.

On Detached Service

"KEEPING the wires open" is considered one of the most important tasks in the work of the telephone man at the front and behind the lines. In order to accomplish this, constant supervision and watchfulness are exercised. Private Arthur E. Riley, of the 407th Telegraph Battalion, tells of his work in this connection.

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

DEAR SIR:

Since we came over here we have camped at three different towns, traveling about four hundred and fifty miles.

At the present time I am on detached service at a large camp, with two other men and a corporal in charge, engaged in maintenance work on an important line.

The men in this detachment besides myself are Corporal J. Bogne, formerly a Westchester County man; J. Venners, formerly a Bronx installer; and H. E. Browne, formerly a New York City installer.

This particular camp is quite large and near a large railroad center. There is a great deal of mud, and we have to walk about two miles each way for our mess. It takes us just one-half hour to get there.

We are living in a wooden house that is about twenty-five by fifteen feet, called "Cavinaars." In it are central office and our bunks.

The weather over here these past couple of weeks has been rainy and very foggy. I don't know how they could ever call it Sunny France.

The health of the boys in general is good.

Trusting to be back soon with the New York Telephone Company and employees, and wishing them the best of health, I remain,

PRIVATE ARTHUR E. RILEY,

Another Letter From Bunny Rhodes

Headquarters Base Section No. 2,
Office of the Signal Officer.
January 17, 1918.

DEAR KEEG:

This is to let you know that the well-known "no gold tips but finest quality" have completed their first and last trans-Atlantic voyage, and to thank you for the same. It's always nice to be remembered, and when the remembrance takes the form of creature comforts of the very best sort, then, you bet, we stand up and cheer loudly for the sender. The way Christmas presents arrive here reminds me of a "rookie" regiment coming in from a practice march—they arrive one by one, very much the worse for wear, though all I've received so far have been intact. The march of the post-office department seems to be very lax.

Your third letter also arrived, and was duly greeted with appropriate ceremonies. I was very grieved to hear of Morrissey's sad loss; tell him that if he wants a substitute for his departed friend, I can supply one very easily. My juvenile reading always taught me that dogs were a necessary adjunct of an Indian village, but the descendants of Charlemagne have the noble redskin backed off the map when it comes to assorted sizes and shapes. If he will send me the desired dimensions, I'll pick out a nice 1918 model for him.

For the business end of your letter, there are two difficulties. First, that first letter of mine was written in the first flush of youthful enthusiasm, and I'm not at all sure that I'll be able to keep up the pace. There comes a time in the affairs of men over here when a chap would gladly forfeit his foreign service pay for a glimpse of the Times Square subway station. Another thing is that I'm busier than a slack-wire artist in the middle of the feature stunt. The "C. O." down here believes that the way to run a job is to camp on that job; so we camp—from dawn to dark. Then we come back to the office and dispose of what all army officers allude to with a shudder as paper work. But I'll do the best I can, Keeg; reading and writing letters are my only two dissipations, and reading matter has an annoying habit of running out. So I'll try to kick through as often as possible.

* * * *

MAKING A NEW LANGUAGE

They have a cute little game at this boarding house which they play at meal times. There is a little box on the table, and every time you speak a word of English you put a sou in the box for the blessés. The idea is that I and two other officers who share my misfortune shall thus learn French; sort of Montessori method of painless education, you know. It works fine—for the blessés; by this time they are probably living on champagne and terrapin, and when they're discharged they'll all be equipped with Ford cars and diamond scarf pins. And maybe we'll know some French.

Perhaps you don't know what a "blessé" is. A "blessé"—note change from plural to singular, showing great versatility—is a wounded man. I used to think, when I heard the phrase "blessés militaires" that they were applying an endearing adjective to the soldiers and calling them blessed and I thought what a nice idea it was, and how different from our own country. But it only means "wounded soldiers"— a lot of young ideals are being shot to pieces in this war.

The American army is adopting the system of their Anglo-Saxon brethren and borrowing such French words as appeal to them; they also allude to everything by initials. The result is a brand new language, which requires as much study as any problem in tactics. A common—and frequently-used—example is like this: "The wire to H. L. O. C. is pas bon"—which, being interpreted into the vernacular, means that the wire to Headquarters, Line of Communications, is not working. I predict that Mr. Maxwell will have to rewrite his well-known grammar when the Sammies—isn't that a hell of a name to saddle on a crowd of real men?—get back.

I'll have to sound recall now. I have at hand the job of staking out a pole line; I find that my traffic training, not to mention my education, is unavailable on this job. The chief requirements over here are to be blessed with a strong back and a weak mind; the latter is so you will not advance any theories which may conflict with some pet scheme of the "C. G."—Commanding General. So you see, by taking regular exercise I get along nicely. Well, regards and more and more thanks.

Sincerely,
BUNNY.
First Lieutenant BERNARD K. RHODES.

Christmas in France

Somewhere in France,
Dec. 25, 1917.

DEAR MOTHER:

"'Twas the night before Christmas"—and everywhere there was practically no evidence of its being that. It may be a mistaken impression, but it doesn't seem that Christmas or Christmas eve have anything like the significance here that they have at home. It seems to be more of a purely religious fete. There is no effervescent well-wishing among friends, and no great amount of making merry.

It was a most peculiar Christmas eve for me. After finishing the day's work there was about a twenty-mile journey by motorcycle back to camp and supper. Traveling alone at night by motorcycle gives a strange sensation. Across country, through villages, around winding roads, up hill and down—it all seems weird—and also cold. The snow glistens in the moonlight, except where the trees—which, sentinel-like, line the narrow roadway—cast their shadows across. Sometimes the shadows happen to be from a passing grove of evergreens, reminding one of Christmas trees at home in "The States."

Up the last hill and round the last turn—camp—supper—sleep.

At reveille we had our Christmas presents—a Red Cross bag for each man. Mine contained a toothbrush and paste, soap, towel, wash cloth, pair of leather shoestrings, some hard candy, and a box of assorted tobacco. The last was from the Washington *Times* fund, and the card enclosed said that Mr. Edward McLean, of Washington, D. C., was the donor.

You speak of the "irregularity of the mail." As I have said in other letters which I hope you have received before this, our mail is very irregular also. I have gone for over a month without a letter from you, and waits of two weeks are frequent. I have not written a great number of letters, but try to get one off as often as I can.

If you all had as fine a dinner as I (roast turkey, dressing, cranberries, et cetera, oranges, nuts, figs, pie) and all enjoyed yourselves as much as I would have, had I been there with you, you had a pleasant Christmas. I hope you did.

ERWIN.
Electrician ERWIN R. MCLAUGHLIN,
Co. E, 407th Tel. Batt.

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Recreations, Too!

DEAR SIR:

I would like to say something about the work of the American destroyers over here, but regret that the censorship regulations prohibit it. However, I can say that we are doing good work, and as the saying goes in the States, we sure will Kan the Kaiser. When we first came over here, things certainly were dull, but some wealthy Americans residing in London built and are backing a club for our use, and run by us, which tends to make it more homelike. Movies every night, an orchestra and a band, and entertainments regularly. So on the whole we fare pretty well over here, considering the circumstances.

Thanking you all again and wishing you all the success the New Year can bring, I remain

Sincerely yours,

HOWARD J. PHELAN,
U. S. S. *Fanning*.

Behind the Wheel in France

MY DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

We are now in one of those pretty little villes at the foot of a high range of mountains. Our barracks are old dance halls, seemingly vacated at the outbreak of this awful war, and take it from me it *is* awful. This town has everything from a mayor to a town crier. Our garage is in what was once the Town Hall.

All the boys are feeling fine. Working hard every day. Have earned a reputation in our line of work at Headquarters and the boys are keeping it up, too.

Well, the ink is giving out and Taps will blow any minute, so I will close with great thanks for the gift received.

HOWARD FORKER,
Chauffeur Corporal.

Life on a Farm

France.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

We are now living in real French apartment houses, and the room in which I sleep with eighteen other men has paper on the walls, a real wooden floor, and a nice big French stove in the middle of the room—all the comforts of home. This town is a very beautiful place and has a population of fifteen hundred people, who are very friendly and sociable. Before we moved to our new homes we had been living in barns. Our company occupied four of these barns or billets, as they are called by the U. S. Army.

In the billet in which I slept there was a hen coop right next to my bunk, which consisted of a straw mattress laid out on the concrete floor. In that hen coop there lived a big white goose, and every 4 A. M. he would sing out "Quack, quack, quack." Just as I would reach for a shoe or something heavy to throw in his direction, the quacking would cease. This noise lasted about three weeks, when the kind-hearted farmer in whose barn we were living, decided he would like a goose for Sunday's dinner—so good-bye friend goose. To the chopping block we mourned our loss.

The next catastrophe took place October 16, at 2:20 A. M., when I was called from a nice, quiet sleep by the bugler sounding fire call. I rushed out half-dressed, and to my great surprise Billet No. 4 (which is right across the road from our Billet No. 1) was in flames. I started over on the "double-quick" to save our mess kitchen, which is right next to Billet No. 4. After that we proceeded to save as much Government and personal property as possible.

At 3:30 A. M. the town Fire Department arrived on the scene. The entire department consisted of a home-made hose-cart, built in 1876. This hose-cart was pulled to the fire by the town Mayor and five French war veterans, about whom the townspeople crowded.

They pumped the water from a well on the farm. This well ran dry in about forty minutes. Their hose was made of hard leather, and after fooling around, sprinkling the water every place but on the fire, we invited them to stay and have breakfast with us—which invitation they gladly accepted. At 10:30 A. M. they left us to return to the firehouse with their fire-fighting apparatus.

This fire died out a week later, all that was left being four concrete walls.

Hoping this letter will find you and all the employees of the New York Telephone Company enjoying the best of health as this letter leaves me in the same condition at present, thank God, I beg to remain,

Your grateful friend,

"BILL" BOYLAN.

P. S.—Please tell "Bill" Gillespie and Foreman Gene O'Neill to drop me a line. I sent each one of them two letters and as yet have not received an answer. My new address is as follows: Private Wm. F. Boylan, Co. E, 407th Telephone Battalion, National Army, A. E. F. Good-bye and good luck to you and employees of New York Telephone Company.—B. B.

Meeting Emergencies

DEAR SIR: France.

Your wonderful Christmas box arrived to-day and no time was lost in letting you know how delighted I was to know that the boys in France had not been forgotten.

Its contents were evidently very carefully chosen, for each article seemed to fill a much needed want. I might add that their quality measured favorably to the standard of all things done by so thorough an organization as the New York Telephone Company.

Please accept my most sincere and heartfelt thanks and extend same to all those who were instrumental in conveying so great a pleasure to me "Over Here."

Personally, I have been getting along very well, considering the climatic conditions.

Speaking of the work to be accomplished, the lay-out here would be a joy to an old-timer. The ways and means as employed to meet all manner of unusual conditions, without a doubt, have the pioneer days backed off the boards.

My particular station is fortunately blessed with a complete set of tools, which, considering the scarcity of such articles at the present time, makes them worth their weight in gold.

Well, after we had secured the tools, there was nothing to do but the work, which was as follows: One cross box to be constructed; material on hand, several old packing cases and a little black paint. The paint, of course, made a fair job really presentable.

Next on the list was the need of six twenty-six pair lock nut strips and wood form cleats. These were easily fashioned from plain pieces of wood. To drill the holes straight, that were necessary for bolts to be inserted, was some proposition. This, of course, was practically impossible to do by hand, and my initial attempt resulted in a failure. Another set was started, this time taking advantage of a very cordial invitation from the French Poste de Telephone authorities to make use of their plant and equipment; so with the aid of a lathe, that difficulty was overcome. I might add that on account of the shortage of fuel, the use of electricity is not permitted until 11:30 A. M., even in so important a place as the telephone exchange. Right now I want to say that drilling 474 holes, which is the required number for six pairs of lock nut strips, together with the form cleats, is no mean task when foot power must be resorted to.

The major part of the strips was at last completed, and all that was necessary was the bolts and nuts. Brass, of course, was out of the question, so those of iron were substituted. I might add that the price asked for ordinary iron bolts and nuts is nothing short of frenzied finance.

GETTING SUPPLIES

Cross connecting clamps were easily accounted for with a piece of old iron rod picked up in a junk pile, and with the aid of a good live fire, the familiar U was soon formed. Both ends were pointed so as to be driven into the cross box. Another dab of black paint and Eureka! By the way, I haven't accounted for the paint. A package of American cigarettes or tobacco works wonders with any Frenchman. There's mighty little French tobacco on hand, and plenty of Frenchmen to work on. A piece of twenty-six pair lead-covered cable was secured from the French Post, which answered my purpose to a nicety. Next, the matter of boiling out was overcome by melting down a number of wax candles. This stunt also served to boil out some ordinary twine, which served as fairly good lacing cord.

Shellac could not be procured, so some white mucilage was experimented with, and when dry, left a hard shell-like surface, thereby overcoming another little point.

Number eighteen galvanized iron tie wire was substituted entirely for the want of cable clamps.

Taking it all in all, the accomplishment was so near to standard that our combination telephone and telegraph room is the only spot in France that seems at all homelike, and has in fact become a home to me. I work, eat, and sleep on the premises, and mine is not a soldier's job which the comics love to specialize on, nor are union hours strictly lived up to. For instance, it's no unusual thing after working as an installer all day to be yanked out of bed, ofttimes at eleven-thirty at night, to operate a telegraph wire or deliver a few telegrams.

I have made it a special point in this little message not to comment upon the French people or their country, as I am certain that that phase has been thrashed over and over again in hundreds of other letters received by you. Therefore, please forgive me for my constant abuse of the personal pronoun I, for it was made use of only to let you folk back home know how most of the unusual conditions are being overcome.

My problems are but a fair example of how difficulties were met with by almost everyone during the first few months in France, until our real equipment arrived.

Yours to a cinder,

SERGEANT J. DESMARAIS,
Former Installer.

Work, and More of It

SOMETIMES the regular routine of camp life is interrupted by some one who is inconsiderate enough to revert to the childish trick of contracting the measles, with the result

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that the quarantine flag is hung out over various companies threatened with it. Sergeant Messe, of Camp Dix, tells of his troubles, when, on account of the quarantining of most of the companies in his regiment, the Regimental Guard Work and Fatigue Duty all fell to the share of Company F. He writes:

We have been on the jump for the past three weeks. I have been on guard duty almost every other day for the past two weeks. It is a 24-hour trick—two hours on duty and four hours off. With fatigue work sandwiched in, I haven't much time to myself.

When the quarantine is lifted, we should be exempt from guard duty for several months to come.

It is nearly three months since I arrived here, but it seems much longer. It is some change from the old life. Am feeling fine and getting more fit physically every day. Haven't done any drilling of late on account of weather conditions. In place of drilling, however, three practice hikes a week are planned for.

The weather has been real wintry for the past two weeks. One of the natives remarked that it was the hardest winter in twenty years. Our barracks are warm, and we are well clothed and getting our three squares a day, so I guess we haven't any kick coming. . . .

Remember me to all the boys, and with kindest regards, I remain,

Sincerely,
A. MESSE,
Company F, 310th Infantry,
Camp Dix, N. J.

Christmas Boxes Still Give Good Cheer

CHRISTMAS has come and gone, but reflections of the Christmas spirit still reach us, for in France some of our boys have just received their boxes, long delayed, but very welcome. The replies which we have received leave no doubt in our minds as to whether they conveyed successfully the message of cheer and good fellowship that the telephone people sent with them. It cannot help but be a source of great happiness to the donors to know that their little gift meant so much to our boys.

Sunny France.

FRIENDS:

I use the term "Sunny France" advisedly to-day, not because the sun is shining, for it is not, but because the Telephone Christmas box just landed. I am not a Christian Scientist, but believe me, a sunny day is as much a state of mind as it is a weather condition and any day "over here" is sunny when we know our friends back home still love us. My box arrived in good shape and for my share in your splendid generosity I thank you muchly. May God bless you and keep you until we are a united family once again.

Au revoir,
LIEUT. C. H. BASSLER.

A particularly happy idea was wrapping each article separately, thereby adding immensely to the joy of opening it, like the stockings we used to dig into with such palpitating eagerness in the old days when life had not begun to present such grave responsibilities as it does to-day. This act is going to make stronger, if possible, the loyalty and affection we in the field have to those back home and to our dear old "Company," the cleanest corporation, headed by the whitest officer I have ever known.

E. N. CLARKE,
Camp Meade.

Civilization Versus Barbarism

Just a few lines to express my true thanks to the Company and its men and women who have united so kindly at this cheery season to make the boys happy who are now working for Uncle Sam. May his success be as great as our System's, and may the efficiency we acquired while in the service of the Telephone Company add greater strength and proficiency to our already strong force, which I am sure will stem the sluggish tide of "Barbarism" which is trying to destroy the bulwark of "Civilization. . . ."

I greatly appreciate the receipt of the monthly REVIEW and enjoy it thoroughly. I noticed in this month's issue that the description of my meeting with Sergeant Major Empey was given publicity. May all our enlisted employees "do their bit" in this war as ably as he.

JOSEPH A. KENNEDY,
U. S. S. *Mercury*,
c/o Postmaster, New York.

In speaking of his trip across, he said it was wonderful. It took twenty-one days from the day they left New York until they reached France with a convoy of ships carrying fruit, troops, nurses and Christmas boxes. It was cold the first six days out, but after that it was like summer. All along the Azore Islands and the coast of Spain it was warm enough to sleep on open decks. They spent about eight days going through the war zone. It was full of wreckage, and everywhere you looked you saw bits of wrecked life-boats and ships. As no one had shore liberty in France, all were disappointed.

MRS. J. B. BISONETTE,
Quoting Joseph C. Bisonette.

France.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

Some one said once that anticipation is better than realization. I received a letter from the TELEPHONE REVIEW some ten days ago which furnished the anticipation and to-day the realization arrived. But I must disagree with the old sage, for the realization left absolutely nothing to be desired. The package is certainly the embodiment of loving care and thoughtfulness, and when I took out each dainty parcel it seemed as if I could feel the clasp of all the friendly hands, "back at home on the old job." What do I think of it? Well, there's something in my throat that's kind o' hard to swallow, and there, the smoke from my cigarette sort o' gets in my eyes, I guess. I feel that a tribute like that from the members of "our family" is something that will linger in our hearts long after our work here is finished, and we are back again to the humdrum tasks that will be so welcome again. My heartiest wishes to all for the happiest New Year ever.

Very sincerely,
F. W. MASTIN.

France.

EDITOR OF TELEPHONE REVIEW:

DEAR SIR:

Please convey through your valuable publication my sincere thanks to all the fellow workers of the New York Telephone Company, back home, on the dear old job, for the wonderful package and well wishes, just received. It was a wonderful idea and showed plainly the Bell spirit.

I am, with hearty thanks, one of the workers on the new job.

SERGEANT EDWARD FRANK.

France.

DEAR FRIENDS AND FELLOW EMPLOYEES:

It gives me the greatest pleasure to assure you that I received your most welcome Christmas gift last night. You cannot imagine with what mingled feelings of pleasure I removed each article from its place, and thought of those who were instrumental in remembering the boys who are here with me trying to do their bit, so that they may return to their old jobs with a feeling of security, such as cannot be felt by those at home until "The Boys Come Home" with Victory written on their happy countenances.

A few of the articles, such as the knife, pipe, and cover design, will remain with me until death. I shall hold them in the highest esteem, as I do my friends and co-workers of the Bell.

Your gift was far superior to what any of us expected. I can only say, I hope we may live to partly repay the energy and thoughtfulness which must have accompanied the donation, for I can see plainly that we can never fully repay what it must have cost you all to please U. S. Boys.

We can remain content with our fare on this side of the "pond" when we have such assurance of good will and friendship so many miles away. Yet, I can venture to say that every one of the boys would go back to the job to-morrow, if he knew that his services there were more necessary to the good of all than here. Can I say more in praise of the influence which the Bell Service has over its members? Could I write more of the feelings I have, I would gladly do so, but I have expressed the feeling of our boys here and friends at home as they are, and hope that all employees are as well pleased with their associates as those of the New York Telephone Company.

Your dear friend and co-worker,
FERDINAND F. GEOSITS,
Co. E, 2nd Tel. Bn.,
Signal Reserve Corps,
American Expeditionary Force, France.

Co. D, 407th Tel. Bn., S. C., N. A.
American Expeditionary Forces,
France.

TO ALL THE EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY, BACK HOME ON THE OLD JOB:

It is difficult to convey our full appreciation of a gift or a token of remembrance when we are many miles from the comforts of home and love of family. Our gratitude for your good cheer and encouragement is only an index to the many kind thoughts of appreciation, sent by wireless in your direction.

My package containing the eight articles, necessities and luxuries, was truly a pleasant surprise. It was what one might call "Memories of Home," and I could picture the smiling faces of the senders and also feel the good wishes that accompanied each carefully wrapped article. Your generous remembrance, prompted by patriotism and interest in our welfare, was received with our esteem and admiration for all the employees who are still back at home, on the

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job, and not too busy with their additional duties to forget to remember their former fellow-workers in a foreign land. Although we are not a fighting unit we need the same support, and nothing excels your tribute to the telephone boys in France: "We are with you and behind you until you come back home to receive the welcome that awaits you." The anticipation of a happy return will smoothen many a rough road, strengthen our faith, and encourage each man to do his duty until Kaiser Bi is sent where he belongs.

There is much pleasure enjoyed in receiving THE TELEPHONE REVIEW every month as most of our news is received in the mail from the United States, and we are often many miles from other American troops. It makes us feel that we are together in our work for a common cause. When Kaiser Bill is a negative quantity, all will be proud to say, "The New York Telephone Company did its Bit, which was a Big Bit."

With sincere thanks and the best of good wishes to all,

Yours sincerely,

CORPORAL CHARLES H. OVERINGTON,
S. C., N. A.

TO THE EDITOR:

I cannot adequately express my gratitude to the employees of the New York Telephone Company for sending such an elaborate Christmas box to help brighten our Yuletide "over here."

When I think deeply of same, it proves the good fellowship of those "back at home on the old job," which was always so discernible throughout our associations.

Hoping you may soon hear of our great victory, which we all feel is very near, I am,

Sincerely,

SERGEANT A. G. O. ANDERSON.

P. S.—That knife sure was a pippin.

Still in France.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

To start with, let me say a million thanks for that wonderful parcel of joy that the telephone workers enabled us boys to receive for our Christmas in France. Although the parcel was a little late in arriving, which I know was no fault of the sender, I can truly say, I had the greatest joy in receiving the gift, and I doubt if the sender had any more joy in sending it than I had in receiving and opening my Christmas box from the telephone workers, "back home on the old job." We boys are feeling fine and dandy these days, which are indeed like the good old spring days. But no doubt you folks are still having winter days home. With my best wishes to all the telephone workers, I close my little note saying, many thanks.

AL. E. HEARN.

I can assure you that I do not regret entering the service. Both physically and mentally the life has been more than a benefit to me. The seven years which I spent in the service of the New York Telephone Company have paved the way for the discipline and routine work of the Army.

RICHARD C. DAWE,
1st Light Infantry, U. S. R., Co. H.,
111th U. S. Infantry, Augusta, Georgia.

On the Rampart

From the book of poems, "In Praise of War."

By DON C. SEITZ

I SAW the soldier stand on the rampart:
Silently, swiftly, he signalled the rescuing host,
Cheered the beleaguered with news of the oncoming army,
Then fell, crumpled and bloody, found by the far-searching bullet
Aimed by some sharpshooter hidden and distant.
Boldly another arose tall on the rampart,
Waved, too, the signals, completing the message!
So on the ramparts of life men fall and men follow,
Each waving his message, struggling, completing!

Learning to Fly

3rd P. T. S.,
Ellington Field,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Mr. Carpenter.—I am hardly a finished aviator yet, though my progress in the last week or ten days has been rapid. I was graduated from the dual class after many adversities, due to weather, change of instructors, broken ships, and what-not. I had three instructors before I was through, and two types of machines, and during that stage I encountered all sorts of weather, fog, rain, gales, and swiss-cheese air—all of which helped me greatly and left me feeling that I could come pretty near taking care of myself alone under severe weather conditions. My last instructor was very fussy about landings, and refused to let me go until three or four days after I thought I should handle her myself.

EVERY BIRD MUST TRY ITS WINGS

I wanted to land by myself because his signalling always bothered me, and there are enough things to watch without an instructor's signals. He predicted a broken landing gear for my first trip. I was sorry to disappoint him, but honestly, without bragging, I laid the ship down as nicely as though I had been at the game for years, and not more than fifteen yards from where he stood. I think he was disappointed that I had done so well, but he rushed over and said, "Don't dare tell me I interfere with your flying!"

However, I cheered him up a little three trips later when I broke a wing skid. He got me another ship, an old ostrich that no one would have wept over if I had wrecked it, and I pulled off four or five more landings that seemed to please him. So he read me a penny lecture about general principles, told me I was "too damned confident," and inclined therefore to be "careless," and sent me on my way rejoicing.

HIS FIRST FLIGHT

But honestly, if you asked me the pleasantest moments I have spent here so far, I would say, "my first trip alone." The day was glorious, the air good, the ship a wonder, and I never enjoyed anything more. I felt like shouting for joy, and just steering off into the beautiful blue sky in the direction of Galveston. I never drove a steadier ship, or felt more confident. Frankly, I had expected to find the first trip somewhat of a strain, and to feel a satisfaction in getting down to old mother earth again.

During the last week I have been on the solo field averaging about two hours a day, and the last three days have been terrors—wind galore. Yesterday there was a gale that kept you fighting the ship every second. If you are going to stay up in such weather it requires constant vigilance. You can't hold a tank on a turn without constant working of the control, for the drift raises the dickens with your course, and is dangerous on account of the large number of ships always in the air here. The worst of it is the way the wind tries to steal your rudder. It will throw your feet right off the rudder, too, if you don't watch out, and if that happens the chances are that you will go into a tail spin, and tail spins are to be avoided because even the best of fliers can not always get out of them. Five of the seven fliers who have lost their lives in the last month here did so as the result of tail spins.

AN ACROBAT ON WINGS

I passed my landing tests yesterday, and tomorrow I report for acrobatics (one hour). The instructor will put me into a stall, a side slip, an Immelman turn, and a tail spin, and show me how to get out of each. Then he lets me try them. This instruction in acrobatics so early in the course is a new feature here. I think it is the right dope, because you can theorize about how to get out of these dangerous attitudes all you please, and it probably won't help a bit when you do get caught, because all of them depend upon coolness and gentleness with the controls, and this comes only from experience. In recovering, the ships are put under an awful strain, and something usually breaks, because the controls are worked too violently. From the acrobatic field I do air work for five hours—figure eights and spirals. Then, ten hours more of air work, including 90-degree tanks and spirals, in which your rudder becomes your elevator, and vice versa, and "dead stick" work, where you shut your engine dead (ordinarily you never shut off your magneto, and your engine idles at 400-500 R. P. M. in landing) at an elevation of 2,000 feet, and land for a given mark on a comparatively rough-surfaced field.

NEARING A COMMISSION

From this stage I pass to cross-country work—about five trips, the longest of which is 80 to 90 miles. By then, provided I have passed my wireless and gunnery work, I should be recommended for an R. M. A. and a second lieutenancy. After that come formation flying and night flying, and perhaps a first lieutenancy. I am not sure about it, as everything seems to be twisted up with rumors, and one hardly knows what to believe.

A FULL DAY

Our schedule of work was recently revised, and we surely put in a long day now. We rise at 5.15. Breakfast, calisthenics, policing of barracks and grounds keep us busy until 7; then classes and drills until 11; noon mess and the flying field from 12.30 to 6.15. Then a whole 1¼ hours to walk a mile and a half, clean up and eat, and after that classes from 7.30 to 9.00. Lights out at 9.30. Believe me, I am weary after such a day (I don't believe there is anything more exhausting than flying).

Best wishes to all hands at 195. I appreciate how busy you are. If you get a chance to drop me a line any time, though, it will be very welcome. E. L. CONE.

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The Flags Are Delivered

Major Shearer Cables Receipt

THE expression of good-will and loyal support to the soldiers has been indicated more clearly than words, in the act of the women of the four down-state divisions of the Traffic Department, in presenting the 404th and 407th Telegraph Battalions with flags. The feeling of friendship and cheer which these gifts have awakened in the hearts of the soldiers is also the best form of appreciation.

The gifts included more than the sets of flags, since the contributions for the purpose exceeded the actual cost. The extra money amounting to $345 was divided, and forwarded directly to the Battalions to be used for Camp Funds, enabling the Battalions to obtain a few necessary comforts or additional equipment—"luxuries," as Major Shearer expresses it—which otherwise they might have had to forego.

A cablegram from Major Shearer, dated March 28, announces the good news that the flags have safely reached their destination, "Somewhere in France." It reads:

"Colors received. Perfect.
—Shearer."

In the following letters from Major Shearer and two subordinate officers, the gift of money is acknowledged with sincere gratitude. A letter from the commanding officer of Company E, Captain Mellinger, has not been received, probably due to the mail congestion.

HEADQUARTERS
407TH TELEGRAPH BATTALION
February 4, 1918.

MR. H. J. SCULTZ,
Div. Supt. of Traffic, N. Y. Tel. Co.,
15 Dey Street, New York City.

DEAR MR. SCHULTZ:

I have received your letter of December 31st transmitting the deposit slip for $172.50, which is the balance from the operators for the boys of the battalion. It is a very generous Christmas present which I have instructed be used to provide the boys with the luxuries which the "girls with the smile" would like them to have. At the present rate of exchange of 5.70, this sum amounts to 983.25 francs and has been distributed as follows:

	Francs
Company D	450.00
Company E	450.00
Hq. and Supply Detachment	83.25
Total	983.25

You will receive acknowledgments from the three officers in whose custody I have placed the funds, and I take this occasion to thank you again for this generous present from the operating force of the New York Telephone Company to their fellow employees in the field.

I am sorry to say that the colors have not yet arrived, but I trust that before this letter reaches you, you will have received a cable from me announcing their safe arrival. Shipments come through slowly but surely. As an example, we received today the November shipment of tobacco, which arrived most opportunely as tobacco is scarce just now.

The news you wrote of telephone happenings in New York was welcome. We all have a real interest in what goes on in the old home town, and are glad to get word from all sources. It is too bad we can't reciprocate with details of our work, but that is against regulations. Rest assured, we have been busy, and when this war is won we will all be ready to return to our old associations of the ante-bellum days. Better friends no men ever had—as has been demonstrated many times over in the last nine months.

H. H. SHEARER,
Major, S. C., U. S. R.

HEADQUARTERS
407TH TELEGRAPH BATTALION
February 5, 1918.

MR. H. J. SCHULTZ,
15 Dey Street,
New York City.

MY DEAR MR. SCHULTZ:

Major Shearer has turned over to me, as Battalion Adjutant, to be used for the benefit of the soldiers of the Headquarters Detachment, the sum of 83.25 francs, which represents $14.60 of the surplus from the operators' fund for the presentation of colors to the Telephone Company's battalions.

No mere formal letter of acknowledgment and thanks can carry to you a proper appreciation of the feeling with which the men received my announcement of this new evidence that we are all thought of at home, while so far away from our former locations and former modes of life.

I wish that I might send each girl a personal message of gratitude for her thoughtfulness and generosity, but under the circumstances, the men must depend on me, and the girls on you, to represent them in this exchange of greetings.

With the very best wishes for all the members of the Traffic Department and the whole Company, and with lively hopes that we may sometime before very long be back at our permanent posts among you, I am,

Sincerely yours,
G. EVERETT HILL, JR.,
1st Lieut., S. C., U. S. R.

CO. D., 407TH TEL. BATT., N. A.
American Expeditionary Forces, France
February 5, 1918.

MR. H. J. SCHULTZ,
15 Dey Street,
New York City.

MY DEAR MR. SCHULTZ:

Permit me to thank you and the operators who contributed for the very substantial donation I received today from Major Shearer for the benefit of the boys of "D" company. The many tokens of the friendship and good will of our friends back home are continual reminders that we are still in your thoughts as, I can assure you, you are in ours. The 450 francs will add a considerable part to the comfort and happiness of the boys.

Wishing everybody a happy and prosperous New Year, I am,

Very sincerely,
F. W. MASTIN,
Capt. Co. D.,
407th Tel. Batt., N. A.

Major Badeau Writes

THE flags for the 404th Telegraph Battalion have safely arrived at Camp Dodge, Iowa, where the Battalion is now located.

Major Badeau in command of the Battalion has expressed the appreciation of the boys in the following letter to H. J. Schultz, division superintendent of traffic, under whose supervision the flags were sent:

404TH TELEGRAPH BATT., N. A.
CAMP DODGE, IOWA.

March 20, 1918.

MR. H. J. SCHULTZ,
Division Supt. of Traffic, N. Y. Tel. Co.,
15 Dey St., New York City, N. Y.

DEAR MR. SCHULTZ:

Please pardon my delay in writing you acknowledging the beautiful flags which were safely here at camp when I returned from my trip to New York.

They are beautiful and we are surely proud of the flags and all they symbolize, not only from a national standpoint, but as a constant reminder of the affection the old crowd back home have for us. They mean much to us.

I've been proudly showing them to all visitors and am enclosing a newspaper clipping from the *Des Moines Tribune,* which was written after one of the reporters had seen the colors.

We will have a review later and the Commanding General will formally present the colors to us. I certainly wish some of the Telephone people could be present to add to the ceremony.

May I express for the entire Battalion our sincere appreciation for the flags.

Think of us coming back at the successful conclusion of this mess and marching up Broadway flying those colors!

Sincerely yours,
CARROL BADEAU.

We quote an extract from the *Des Moines Tribune,* which comments on the arrival of the flags in these words:

There will be no finer flags in the whole United States army in France than those owned by the Four Hundred Fourth Telegraph Battalion, now at Camp Dodge.

Major Badeau, commanding the Battalion, has received from the New York Telephone Company, from which organization his battalion was recruited, seven beautiful silken flags. They will be carried by the Battalion all through the war.

There are four orange and white guidons, orange and white being the Signal Corps colors, and one splendid American flag, bordered with yellow silk fringe, the ends being knotted to prevent tangling in the breeze.

The flags were all embroidered by a woman in the east, who embroiders the presidential flags. They are kept carefully wrapped in waterproof covers.

There is to be a formal presentation, at which commanding officers of the Eighty-eighth division will preside.

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Second group of telephone operators ready for France, to serve with the American Expeditionary Forces

Overseas to Operate

THE first group of operators for our army in France has reached the goal toward which every girl in it has been working and striving for many weeks. Behind the lines, in the American camp in France, they are taking their places and adapting themselves to the needs of the war machine.

"Over here," the remainder of the unit of one hundred and fifty girls who have been selected are looking forward eagerly to joining them on the other side, where they, too, can do their bit for Uncle Sam.

The Second Group to Go

THE second group, consisting of forty girls, sixteen of whom have been trained by the New York Telephone Company, is ready to leave for France. They have found this to be the thing that they are best equipped for, and are anxious to start without delay. Everyone of them has but one objective in view,—to win the war, and to accomplish it will thrust everything else into the background.

To those who had the privilege of meeting the girls who applied in answer to General Pershing's call, the spirit of loyalty and eagerness to help that characterized them was a revelation.

Rich and poor; employed and unemployed; American, French, Italian, Belgian, Swiss, Russian, Indian, British, Canadian, Roumanian, and Greek; governesses, teachers, dancers, scholars, stenographers, lady's maids, dressmakers, clerks, milliners, translators, college graduates, interpreters, tutors, students, and some who were living at home without the necessity of earning a living—all vied with each other in an effort to prove their patriotism and willingness to serve. Could there be a more cosmopolitan group of soldiers for Uncle Sam?

French Language Simplified

MOST of the girls were not discouraged by their inability to speak French fluently. Like the man who, when asked if he could play the violin, replied cheerfully, "I don't know, but I'm willing to try!" these candidates declared that they would take lessons at once. They expected to be able to converse fluently in French in a month or so. Many had only a superficial knowledge of French grammar, but practically none of conversational French. These, too, were confident that with a few lessons at the Berlitz School they could promptly and easily qualify in the language test.

As a substantial knowledge of French is required of every successful candidate, there were many who were greatly disappointed when they learned that this deficiency would bar them from enlisting in the country's service in this operators' unit.

All Kinds and Degrees

AMONG those eager to offer their services for Uncle Sam were many who were no mean linguists,—speaking French, Italian, Greek, German, English, Spanish, and other languages,—one, a Greek, claiming to converse fluently in eight languages.

A Russian applied, whose mother was a German and was living in Germany at present with other sons and daughters, several of the former serving in the German army. Some of them had been killed in the service of the Kaiser, but, nevertheless, this girl was keenly desirous of doing her share to defeat their cause.

One young lady of English birth had travelled far, and finally reached this country via Australia and San Francisco. She had been helping in King George's Hospital in England, and proudly exhibited her certificate. She laughed at the suggestion of danger, for had she not been through eleven Zeppelin raids and come safely through the submarine danger zone on two voyages? She had worked as a clerk in the munition works and was trying to help in the navy recruiting here in New York at the time of her application. There were many who proudly showed their passports, much viséed, some showing short trips to and from their native country, and others indicating travels in many distant lands.

Behind the Scenes

IN many cases, the fact that a brother or husband was already in the service has prevented some very eager young ladies from obtaining the coveted opportunity to serve their country "over there." Thereby hangs a tale that sounds more like fiction than real life. During a recent interview, the applicant seemed to meet all qualifications, and her hopes soared accordingly. Suddenly, they were dashed to the ground, when she disclosed the fact that her brother was in the army in France. But orders are orders, and brothers are brothers, so joy was turned into sorrow and happiness into despair, as she sadly

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submitted to the inevitable. She went home crestfallen.

But, the next morning, she returned to the office radiant, and told a story, which, like the truth, is often stranger than fiction. Imagine the amazement of everyone when she told of how she had gone home and told her father of the drawback, and of how, when he realized that this one thing alone prevented his daughter from being accepted for work behind the lines in France, he revealed to her a secret that removed the obstacle from her path! He disclosed the fact that she and her brother, as he was called, were related through marriage only, the boy being the son of his former wife, and not really a blood relation. Thus was the barrier removed, after letters and documents were produced to prove the truth of the story.

Bon Voyage!

AND now from time to time, as the units become qualified to perform the tasks for which they have enlisted, they will sail for France, with hearts full of young courage and determination to give their best for protecting the right. And as they leave these shores, "for the duration of the war," those at home, wishing them "Bon Voyage" on their journey.

OPERATORS TRAINED BY THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY, READY TO JOIN THE FIRST GROUP NOW SERVING IN FRANCE

Top row: Miss Edith Dodson, Miss Darnaby Henton, Miss Suzanne Coheleach, Miss Marguerite Bleyeres, Miss Ethelyn White, Mrs. Pauline McDermott. *Middle row:* Miss Louise Essirard Miss Marthe Libert, Miss Frances Perreton, Miss Julie S. Barrere, Miss Marion S. Taylor, Mrs. Denise Ingram. *Bottom row:* Miss Margaret Anderson, Miss Anne C. Fox, Mrs. Marie A. M. McIntyre, Miss Katherine Hay Robinson

Meetings of the Telephone Society

THE Telephone Society in the various sections up-state is keeping abreast of the times in a very real way, by following the lines of progress, in war issues and requirements, through frequent lectures and pictures. Within the last few months in four different places meetings were held, every one of which dealt with some vital topic discussed by a live speaker.

Poughkeepsie Chapter

IN Poughkeepsie the chapter of the Telephone Society had the unusual opportunity, on February 18, of hearing Mr. Louis Tracy, a prominent English author, who is connected with the British War Commission in the office of Viscount Northcliffe. From his extensive experience of warfare, having fought in the Boer War, seen active service in India, and served as Honorary Sub-Commandant of the Fourth Volunteer Battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment in France, he described the present war from the point of view of England. Very graphically he told of the raids which he had seen in the small fishing village of Yorkshire; he explained trench warfare; and in general touched on actual conditions in England, opening up a broad field of thought for people of this country who have not buckled down to the real meaning of war.

Hudson Section

WAR interests were again uppermost at a meeting of the Hudson section on February 15, held in Albany. This section was fortunate enough to obtain as a speaker Captain Strachan, of the Canadian Black Watch Regiment, who took his audience with him through actual experiences in France. Moving pictures of training camps on the French front, which were in the possession of the British War Commission, added to the realism of his story.

Central Section

ON January 16, the Central Section held their regular meeting at the James Building in Syracuse, and Major H. J. Chandler, of the New York State Troopers, and Captain Barnes, of the same organization, outlined clearly the duties of the rural police. At this gathering the members decided to give up the annual banquet this year for patriotic reasons, to be replaced by a simple entertainment. The money which was saved in this way is to be used to buy a Liberty Bond.

On February 20, the details of the Benefit Fund were explained to the members of the Central Section at a regular meeting, by John S. Kennedy, secretary of the Benefit Fund Committee. In this connection it will be remembered that the annual report of the committee was printed in the March issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW.

Rochester Chapter

THE Rochester Chapter had the pleasure of hearing Rev. Robert J. Drysdale explain the humorous side of camp life on March 14, when the Telephone Society held its meeting. Dr. Drysdale had spent three months at Camp Wadsworth where, as he said, he was generally known as "Scotty" by the boys in camp.

Summer Fantasy

The neighbors left
For sylvan dells;
Their 'phone bell rings,
Their tomcat yells.

They summer cool
Beside the springs,
Their 'phone cat howls,
Their tombell rings.

Their ears are lulled
By forest tales,
Their tomphone peals.
Their catbell wails.

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From Our Telephone Operators at Washington

PERHAPS the best way to get an idea of the life of the operator on war duty in Washington is to read some of her letters to her friends back home. Our girls down there seem to be making the most of their stay, and though the work is hard, they enjoy doing it, knowing that it is worth while. Every one of them realizes the importance of good telephone service, especially in these times, and is making herself a committee of one in order to see that the Government gets it.

The following extracts are quoted from a few of the letters:

DEAR ——:

Washington is a very beautiful place and we all like it very much. The streets are very level, wide, and clean; in fact I have seen but one high elevation of land since I came here and that is the ground on which our college is located. We have to walk up about seventy-four steps before we reach the college (Washington College).

The academy (Washington College) where we are boarding is extremely large and beautiful. There are eighty or more rooms in it and it accommodates three hundred people, but at present there are not that many in it.

We have a very beautiful room all in white with exquisite blue and pink wall paper. Sometimes the room is in a terrible uproar, when the girls are trying to find things that seem to have disappeared over night. Miss M. and I sleep in a lovely white three-quarter bed, while Miss G. and Miss M. occupy the dearest little white enameled twin beds.

Miss Manz, our chaperon, is a very wonderful substitute for "mother," and tries her best to make it pleasant and as much like home as she can for every one of us.

Sincerely yours,
ESTHER I. SCULLY.

Seeing the Sights

DEAR ——:

Well, we are certainly making the best of our time down here. Jane, Mae and I went to Mount Vernon, Virginia, and we surely did enjoy ourselves. We went all through Washington's home. Then we went all around the grounds and Jane bought a little plant. We had a delicious chicken dinner. Sunday, we are going to Washington's monument.

Four of us started a bank account yesterday, so you see we are going to be real good down here and save our money. I think I have told you all the news. We have Thursday night for our party at our College, and we certainly have good times. Last Thursday night we saw some wonderful stereopticon views of London.

Well, good-bye for now.

Love, MADELINE.

Bank Accounts, Too!

MY DEAR ANNA:

Well, how is everything at home? I suppose all the subscribers are complaining since I left. I'll bet they all miss my sweet voice, but I can't help it if I am a good operator and President Wilson wants me to answer him, can I?

We worked again today and we are off Tuesday, but we have not decided where we are going yet. We all started bank accounts the other day. I started mine with $25.00. Now they will say, "She is a good girl; she did not go down to Washington for nothing."

We make four and one-half hours overtime every week as we work an extra half hour each day, and then the Sunday overtime counts. It amounts to quite a little. We still have the same hours but are used to them now, and don't seem to mind them at all.

Lovingly, JANE.

Not Homesick Yet!

THEY say that when one travels, one is bound to learn, and so it is with our girls in Washington. They are realizing that every place has its peculiarities, and Washington is not exceptional in this respect. There is a great deal of sight-seeing to be done, and the girls are not at all loath to take advantage of the opportunity of visiting historical places and objects of interest. After describing the central office, one of the girls gives us an idea of how she likes her home in Washington.

DEAR LUCY:

The meals are fine. We eat in a big dining room and have colored waitresses. Our rooms are equipped with steam heat, plenty of it, too, and electric lights. Our wash is done free of charge. We mark all our clothes with water-proof ink, and Saturday night, down to the laundry we go and get our clothes from a little booth that is assigned to each girl. Everything is done methodically.

We have a big auditorium where, every Thursday night, we have illustrated lectures and dancing. We also get ice cream and cake. More eats! The Company does this, so you see, Lucy, things are pretty nice here. Did you know we are allowed to call up our homes once a week free of charge? It's mighty fine. I tell you it sure is fine to talk to mother. I have not been homesick as yet and don't want to be either.

Lovingly, VERA.

She'll Stay "Until They Chase Her Home"

EVIDENTLY the girls are delighted with their quarters in Washington, for we get many enthusiastic descriptions of both the College and the Bristol School, both of which have been taken over by the Telephone Company for the convenience of our operators. Parties to points of interest, and congenial surroundings, keep the girls from getting the "blues." As one puts it, "As yet none of us have given way to the blues and between the rush of business and the many places of interest to visit, I guess we will not be troubled with them." Another says:

They have a new building now and I hear we are all going to get a chance to go there for a certain length of time. They say it is very beautiful, but I never want to leave the College. I think the summer here is going to be lovely. I am just dying for it to come. The lawn is covered with flower bushes and I know they are just waiting for half a chance to bud. . . .

I guess things will be straightened out after a while as I understand they intend to almost double the force. I am going to stay here until they chase me home. I guess the other girls will, too.

I am getting fat already in spite of the work. We get lots of good things to eat, so don't worry about us.

Music Hath Charms

NOR are the girls dependent upon outside activities for their interests. Many are excellent musicians and, as the following program will testify, delight their friends from time to time with recitals that would be a credit to professionals.

Recital

Washington College
Young Ladies of the Bell Telephone
Wednesday, February 20
9 P. M.

La Fleurette (Duet).....*Wellesley*
MISS HUEGLE AND MRS. OLMSTED

*Minuet—A l'Antique.....*Paderewski*
MISS MINTE

Valse—Caprice (Duo) .....*Phillipp*
MISS MCCARTHY AND MRS. OLMSTED

Songs
MISS TODD

Twilight .....*Friml*
MISS HUEGLE

Petite Suite
Fanitul
Mazurka (Duo)
Sérénade
Papillons
....*Olsen*
MISS THIBAUDEAU AND MRS. OLMSTED

Songs
MISS TODD

Overture—To "Zampa".....*Herold*
MISS WILSON AND MRS. OLMSTED

Suite
Morgenstimmung
Ases Tod
Anitras Tanz
In der Halle Dis Bergkönigs
MISS THIBAUDEAU, MISS MCCARTHY, MISS MINTE, MRS. OLMSTED.

(To be repeated by request at the Bristol School, Thursday, February 21)

* Miss Minte is a former pupil in Washington College.

This program was given by the pupils of Mrs. Olmsted, a former instructor of music in Washington College. All the girls taking part in it, with the exception of Miss Minte, a former pupil at the College, are telephone operators.

Miss Margaret Huegle is from Manhattan-Bronx Division, Beekman office; Miss Lillian McCarthy is from the New Jersey Division, Hoboken office; Miss Marcella Wilson is from the New Jersey Division, Paterson office; Miss Eda Thibaudeau is from the Hudson Division, Albany Main office, and Miss Edith Todd is from the Long Island Division, New York office.

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Government Ownership of the Telephone System in the District of Columbia

Answer made by F. H. Bethell, President of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, on March 7, 1918, to a Communication from the Postmaster General to the Senate, dated March 4, 1918

ON February 28, 1918, just a week ago, there went out from the Post Office Department at Washington a letter addressed to the secretaries of the trade bodies throughout the country, in which these trade bodies are "urgently requested to impress upon business men the great advantage to be gained by both the Postal Department and the public, if they will adopt the practice of depositing their mail in the Post Office or street collection boxes not only earlier in the day, but as frequently as may be feasible."

"At the present," the letter states, "it is the practice of many business men and firms to hold practically all outgoing mail until the late afternoon or early evening hours. This necessitates defacing, cancellation, distribution, et cetera, of from 60 to 80 per cent. of all outgoing matter within a period of from three to four hours. It is apparent that if this work could be distributed over twelve or fourteen hours, not only would it be handled with greater facility, but its dispatch would be hastened many hours."

Post Office Rates Increased 50 Per Cent., but Small Telephone Rate Increase Opposed

THE congestion in the mail service which the Post Office Department is endeavoring to reduce or eliminate, is of the same character of congestion that has come upon the Telephone Companies. There is this difference; a citizen, in dispatching his mail, merely drops it into the box and forgets it. In dispatching his telephone message he remains at the telephone until the connection is secured, and until the person with whom he wishes to communicate reaches the telephone at the other end of the line.

When Washington, suddenly transformed, became the center from which the activities of the nation were directed, there came almost instantly a tremendous demand for telephone service, both local and toll. The Telephone Company, in the interest of good service, has made its appeal to the public, just as the Post Office Department made its appeal.

In the matter of rates for service, there was given to the Post Office Department an increase, approximating 50%, a three cent stamp being substituted for a two cent stamp on the ordinary letter.

The Telephone Company with its extra burdens has not asked for an increase of 50%, or anything approaching it. The increase asked for is barely sufficient to meet the increased expenses which have come to us.

Mail Service Most Unsatisfactory, but Partially Excusable

THE Postmaster General stated in his communication to the Senate, dated the 4th inst., that if the bills introduced in the Sixty-fourth Congress, providing for the taking over of the Washington telephone system by the Government, had been enacted into law, the present telephone system in Washington, which may be described at this time as deplorable, would have been avoided.

I say that the Post Office Department has not since war was declared been called upon to solve a problem even approaching the difficulties involved in the problem which the Telephone Company has had to meet, and yet I say no more than business men are saying the country over, when I say—the mail service is most unsatisfactory. The Post Office Department is not to be blamed for this for, as the Department states in its circular, from which I have quoted above, "rearrangements effected from time to time with a view to expediting shipments of war material have brought about a large reduction in facilities available for transportation of the mails. This, in connection with the abnormal increase in bulk of mailings, has resulted in greatly over-burdening the service during some portions of the day, and in delay and congestion at some points."

I submit that these factors, beyond the control of the Post Office Department, have made it difficult for the telephone management, as they have made it difficult for the postal management, to maintain a satisfactory service.

With all due respect to the Postmaster General, I ask, is it not better to discharge properly those duties with which we are charged before we seek new duties in which we are without experience?

Postmaster General Proposes to Install Telephones at $70 More Per Station Than Telephone Company

COMING again to the Postmaster General's communication to the Senate, I find that the Postmaster General "caused to be made by telephone experts a careful study and investigation of the telephone situation in Washington, with the view to definitely ascertaining the necessary operating expenses for conducting the system as a part of the postal service. These experts reported on the first day of May, 1917, that the final cost of the network, including value of the existing plant, embracing 80,000 telephone stations, would be $10,862,310. The network of the present system in 1915, the latest previous data including 54,671 telephones, the larger network proposed, would have fully met the needs of the city for both the present and prospective emergencies."

Note that the number of telephone stations to be operated is given as 80,000 and that the value of the plant, embracing those stations, would be close to $11,000,000, or at the rate of something over $137 per telephone. Actually, the number of telephones connected with the system in the District of Columbia on January 31 last was 72,779, and the investment per telephone $113.53. On March 1, the number of telephones had reached 74,255 and the present rate of growth indicates that the number will be in excess of 80,000 before the end of the calendar year.

In quoting further from the opinion of those experts, the Postmaster General states in connection with the building of his plant designed to serve 80,000 telephone stations, that "the addition of an investment of $4,621,176 would have added 25,329 stations." By the simple process of dividing the amount named by the number of stations given, we find that the cost per telephone to be added would be something in excess of $182, or practically $70 per station in excess of the investment which the Tele-

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phone Company has found it necessary to make.

Good Service, Not Expense, Company's First Consideration

IN the communication to the Senate, an estimate of the per station cost of operating for 1918, in amount $38.10, is characterized as being grossly in excess of what the cost would be if the service were operated by the Post Office Department.

The Telephone Company has not stopped to consider the expense in the efforts it is making properly to provide the Government and the people of the District of Columbia with telephone service during the present emergency. The cost of importing and housing and feeding while here, hundreds of employees, a wartime expense, was included in the Telephone Company's estimates, as were the excessive costs of materials and equipment used. Wage scales have of necessity been increased and, in addition to wages, bonuses are paid monthly to trained employees in order that they may continue at the work for which they have been trained rather than take up other employment offered from other quarters.

Inaccurate Figures Given by Postmaster General

A TABLE in the Postmaster General's communication, showing the average calls per telephone and average rate per 100 calls in different cities, contains, among other things, the following: "Washington, 1914, annual calls per telephone, 823; average telephone rate per 100 calls, $4.21." This identical statement was made by Mr. Lewis before the Committee on the District of Columbia, at a hearing held January 10, 1917; see page 34, Part 2, of the *Record*.

In answering the statement made by Mr. Lewis, just alluded to, I stated at a hearing before the House Committee in January, 1917, page 126, Part 8, of the *Record*, as follows: "As a matter of fact, * * * the records show an average daily flow, not including traffic flowing over private lines through governmental and interdepartmental switchboards (which traffic is tremendous) that the average calls per telephone per year in the District of Columbia was 1,500 during 1914 and not 823, as stated by Mr. Lewis, and that in consequence the rate per 100 calls was not $4.21, as stated, but was something nearer $2.00."

Erroneous Comparisons Repeated and Again Corrected

AGAIN, the figures given by the Postmaster General for Philadelphia, Buffalo, and other cities, as the traffic flowing through independent exchanges rather than Bell exchanges, are the figures used by Mr. Lewis before the House Committee on the District of Columbia. In replying at the time to Mr. Lewis' statement, I pointed out the fact that the Telephone Company operating in Philadelphia, for which an annual usage of 1,445 calls at an average cost of $2.20 per 100 calls was quoted, is what the managers of that company are pleased to call the business man's telephone. In other words, the company is making no effort to meet the requirements of the people of Philadelphia. Its service is not extended into the residential or sparsely settled sections of the city, but is confined to the heart of the business section. The traffic flowing over the lines of the company is the condensed traffic which flows from one busy office to another busy office, and that is all.

With respect to the Buffalo Independent Company, alleged by Mr. Lewis and by the Postmaster General as being unusually efficient, I pointed out that that company there, which had but a short time before installed a complete new automatic service, had failed properly to meet its fixed charges and that even then the president of the company was offering his property for sale to the Bell interests. Since that time the sale has been consummated and the Bell Company has taken title to the property.

A Miracle in Accounting to Be Performed by Post Office Department

IN analyzing the company's expense accounts the Postmaster General concludes with "it is not too much to say the entire revenue collecting and accounting system can be practically displaced under postal methods and the work reduced substantially to one of maintenance and development."

It is not clear to me how collection expense is to be abolished, unless all users of the service are required to make deposits in advance, against which service is to be charged. The suggestion that the entire accounting expense might be abolished is beyond analysis. In any event, the company's accounting system is one prescribed and made effective by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Where the "Humiliation" Lies

COMING to utilization, the Postmaster General, after quoting from my testimony before the House District Committee on the Lewis bill last year, not taking my statement in its entirety, but only that part of it which makes his argument seem plausible, and using statistics presented before the same Committee at the same time by Mr. Lewis, which statistics, when analyzed, were found to be worthless, states, "hence the humiliating knowledge that instead of ranking first in the frequency of our use of the telephone communication, we rank low and not high in the use of these services."

If there is humiliation it attaches to the proposition of being constantly called upon to reply to such statements, and it is especially discouraging when it becomes necessary to defend the company from attacks made by those high in authority, when we are bending all of our energies to assist, and placing all of our resources at the disposal of the Government. The testimony of mine to which I have referred bore on the distribution of the telephone service among the residences in the City of Washington, and was employed by the Postmaster General in an effort to show low utilization.

In my testimony complete, it was brought out that, according to the police census of 1916, there were approximately 56,000 white families in the District of Columbia, and 21,500 colored families, and that practically 50% of the white families were provided with telephone service and that between 2% and 3% of the colored families were so served. There is no more intensive telephone development in any city in the world. If, at the present time, I found mail boxes in every man's home, placed there by the United States Government, I might take seriously the suggestion that, under the Government, telephones would be as bountifully distributed.

Another one of Mr. Lewis' tables used by the Postmaster General shows a comparison between our toll rates and continental toll rates. It is common knowledge that there is no telephone development, and especially telephone toll line development, on the continent of Europe comparable with that found in the United States. There are eleven telephones for every 100 of the population of the United States. There is less than one telephone for every 100 of the population in Europe. The calling rate in the United States averages approximately 200 calls per year for each man, woman, and child. In Europe the average is about 15 calls. Practically every other farmhouse in the United States has a telephone in it. In Europe a farmhouse telephone is a curiosity.

The Postmaster General Nods

"THE local company proposes relief only by destroying through higher rates even more of the existing

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traffic of Washington. The rates now restrict the use of the telephone to about one-half the utilization obtaining throughout the country." This statement made by the Postmaster General is without value because his premise, when analyzed, is found to be unsound. The local company seeks relief through the application of higher rates just as the Post Office Department sought relief when postal rates were recently increased. He states that the only postal limitation on his communicating from end to end of the republic is the cost of a two cent stamp. This apparently was taken from some previous statement because, as everybody knows, the price of such a stamp is now three cents.

Efficiency of Present Telephone System Unequalled in Any Country in the World

THE experts for the Commission, testifying in the recent rate case, submitted a table showing that the rate for telephone messages in the District of Columbia, originating in residences where flat rate telephones are employed, is something less than two cents each.

The Postmaster General makes the statement that "the conclusion cannot be escaped that private rate making is responsible for the out-of-date and inadequate telephone service and for its resulting breakdown from congestion of traffic in Washington."

The telephone equipment employed in Washington is not out-of-date nor is it inadequate, and so far as the breakdown in traffic is concerned, I am well within the truth when I say that during September last, when the service was at its worst, it was even better than can be found in Paris, London, Berlin, or in any other of the world's capitals in normal times.

It is unreasonable to expect a service to hold its normal efficiency during a reconstruction and reorganization period, such as the war brought to Washington. Through our carefully planned system of service observations, we know accurately what the quality of our service is. We know that, during February, the service was considerably better than it has been since May of last year. This is because the tremendous amount of additional equipment brought here is being whipped into shape, and because the hundreds of trained employees brought here from other places are becoming accustomed to their new surroundings and to the work in which they are engaged.

Unfair Criticism

IN the maintenance of efficient service, the most difficult thing with which the management now has to contend is criticism leveled at us from those in high places, when we know that the criticism is unfair.

There is nothing in the Postmaster General's communication that cannot be answered, but possibly I have gone far enough to put the public on notice that the statements made in the communication will not stand analysis.

Bell System Has Met All Demands for Service

LET it be understood that the Bell System has not only met, and met fairly well, the burdens put upon it in the District of Columbia, but it has met the demands of the Government everywhere. Our executives, our engineers, and our experts in our laboratories have concentrated on Government requirements. Trained operators of demonstrated ability are holding themselves in readiness to go wherever their services are needed. Hundreds of them from distant cities are now in Washington, and others are on their way to France, there to operate the lines of communication which Bell telephone men (fourteen battalions of officers and men picked from our ranks have gone to the colors) are constructing and maintaining for the American forces.

Washington, the seat of government, in no sense an industrial center, became suddenly the center of the nation's activities. The conduct of the war, the placing of the country's industries on a war basis, the transportation problem, the food problem, the fuel problem, the Red Cross, and many other things are directed from Washington. The day when diplomatic relations with Germany were broken, the Telephone Company sent to Washington its engineers and experts generally, to take hold of the situation.

Fortunately, "planning ahead" had previously brought to Washington the backbone of a modern telephone plant. The expansion in this plant within a year brought into existence a complete central office designed for 10,000 lines, substantial additions to six other central offices, the installation of numerous additional private branch exchanges, and substantial additions to such exchanges already in service.

Until war was declared, the War Department was adequately and efficiently served through a three-position switchboard. Within a few months, the board was increased to twenty-two positions, and in the early summer it will be established in a new telephone building now being erected to receive it. The new War Department board, consisting of forty-five positions, is adequate to handle the entire telephone service of a city of 100,000 population.

Other Accomplishments of a Year, That Cannot Be Surpassed

THE making of Washington the hub of the system has necessitated an increase of over 300% in capacity of the toll switchboard there. Toll circuits from Washington to Pittsburgh have been increased from two to twelve. Toll circuits to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, and other important centers have been correspondingly increased. A cable containing 80,000 miles of wire is being extended from Washington to New York, and the transcontinental circuits connecting Washington with San Francisco have been trebled.

Within less than a year cantonments, National Guard camps, naval training stations, aviation fields, all needed in the preparation for war, have come into existence. These great centers, practically all of them far removed from the ordinary channels of commerce, have been fully equipped with telephone service and have been connected by telephone circuits with the outside world. All of this has been accomplished within a year in spite of shortages in labor, in material, and in transportation.

Properly to handle these extensions and important additions to the system, 12,000 toll operators have been recruited and trained. We have assisted the transportation companies in their problem of handling large bodies of men and great quantities of supplies by providing them with circuits and equipment needed in the movement of trains.

For the Coast Guard we have extended lines along the Atlantic, the Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico, connecting 100 lighthouses, and approximately 200 Coast Guard stations. In this connection there were placed not less than 300 miles of submarine cable, as well as tremendous amounts of other equipment.

"Behind the lines" in the laboratories and workshops, thousands of our men have perfected and manufactured great quantities of special apparatus for the Army and Navy.

We pride ourselves on the fact that we have given the Government what it wanted, where it wanted it, and when it wanted it, and that we are in a position to continue to meet all proper demands that may be made upon us.

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Bell Telephone to Its Stockholders

The A. T. & T. Annual Report for 1917 has been issued. Some of the principal features are as follows:

SUBSCRIBER STATIONS:—

A total of **10,475,678,** an increase of **628,486,** including **142,466** connecting stations. **3,444,148** of the total were operated by connecting companies. On January **1, 1918,** there was one Bell Telephone station to each **10** of the total population of the United States.

WIRE MILEAGE:—

22,610,487 miles of exchange and toll wire, an increase of **2,760,172.** These figures do not include the wire mileage of connecting companies. Of this total wire mileage, **94** per cent. is copper wire. **13,451,121** miles, or **59** per cent., are underground. The underground conduits represent a cost of **$110,500,000,** and the cables in the conduits **$144,100,000**—a total in underground plant of **$254,600,000.** There are **281,016** miles of phantom circuits in the Bell System, an increase during the year of **59,022** miles.

TRAFFIC:—

30,845,000 completed connections a day, not including connecting companies—at the rate of **10,600,000,000** a year. This is an average of approximately **100** calls per year for every man, woman, and child in the United States.

PLANT ADDITIONS:—

$118,599,462 expended for plant additions, an increase of nearly **50** per cent. over any previous year. The estimates for **1918** are **$90,000,000.** The total amount expended for plant additions in the past seventeen years was **$914,648,400.** During **1917, $94,071,000** was applied out of revenue to current maintenance and depreciation, being **9.3** per cent. of the average value of plant, supplies, etc.

EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT FUND:—

Payments aggregating **$1,997,359** have been made during the year to employees or their relatives for pensions, sickness, accident, and death benefits. In the five years **1913-1917,** inclusive, the expenditures have aggregated **$7,617,375.**

FINANCIAL:—

The total operating revenues of the entire Bell System in **1917** were **$294,900,000,** an increase of **$30,300,000,** or **11.5** per cent. over **1916.** Of these revenues, depreciation and maintenance consumed **$94,071,000,** an increase of **11.3** per cent. over **1916;** traffic expenses consumed **$68,122,000,** an increase of **26.7** per cent.; commercial expenses **$28,364,000,** an increase of **10.4** per cent.; general and miscellaneous expenses **$13,850,000,** an increase of **16.4** per cent.; taxes assignable to operations **$20,711,000,** an increase of **38.9** per cent.

The total gross income was **$76,524,000,** a decrease of **3.6** per cent. under **1916.** Of this amount **$25,810,000** was paid for interest, rents, and so forth, leaving **$36,862,000** for dividends and **$13,852,000** to be carried into surplus.

The capital stock, bonds, and notes payable *outstanding in the hands of the public at the close of the year were* **$917,376,422.** If to this be added the current accounts payable, **$46,382,252,** against which there were liquid assets, cash, and current accounts receivable of **$78,459,782,** or an excess of **$32,077,530** to the credit of the system, it leaves **$885,298,892** *as the net permanent capital obligations* of the whole system outstanding in the hands of the public. The physical plants of the Bell System stand on the books of the Companies at **$1,064,892,710,** an increase of **$118,599,462,** while the present replacement value, based upon appraisals, is many millions in excess of this amount.

The number of shareholders, not including "employee" shareholders, **86,599,** is an increase of **16,044** during the year. **77,258** shareholders held less than **100** shares each. A majority of the Company's shareholders are women.

Over **43,000** employees of the Bell System took advantage of the opportunity to purchase stock of the A. T. & T. Co. at a low price on installments, and some **33,000** are still paying for it out of their wages at the rate of **$2** per share per month. There are probably at least **130,000** actual owners of stock in this Company.

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Comments on the Year 1917

Statement by Mr. Vail at Annual Meeting of American Telephone and Telegraph Company

AT the annual meeting of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company held at noon on March 26, the former directors were re-elected and G. D. Milne was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Richard Olney.

President Theodore N. Vail made the following statement:

Mr. Vail's Statement

"SUBSTANTIALLY all that can be said is said in the annual report. Attempts have been made to discredit our financial position and future prospects by comparisons with last year. Last year was an abnormal year from every standpoint. In the annual report of that year we said that the plant and staff were overburdened; that the surplus plant, which is intended for future growth and emergencies, was brought into use; that as this increased plant carried no additional capital charges, and the gross earnings were abnormal, so were the surplus earnings of the system.

"To get at the real status of our business, comparison should be made with normal years, and these certainly give no reason for apprehension.

"To fully appreciate the value of your property and its securities, you must take the statements of the Bell System as these show the operations as a whole. The statements of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company show only the financial operations and the dividends and other receipts from the Associated Companies, and the operation of the long distance lines.

Public Approval and Co-operation

"THE Bell System is based on one system, universal, interdependent, with a common control. It is the only way a service such as the Bell is giving can be given.

"The public have accepted our views and you cannot now find a single locality where the public do not support this policy to its fullest limit, and are forcing us to act when we sometimes are not anxious to. They are not only forcing us to act, but are acting for us in arranging consents, orders, and approvals of municipal authorities, commissions of regulation and control, and in obtaining the approval of the Department of Justice.

"We can only say that our public have evinced all appreciation of our attempts to make something for them in the way of a telephone service that is unique to this country and Canada, and makes the standard for the world.

Has Never Gone Backward

"WHILE we have the usual tribulations, yet we have no more than our share and only enough to keep those who have the burden and responsibility of the service in good healthy condition mentally, only enough to give them experience and teach them to do things better than predecessors, and enough to educate an oncoming staff which may be an improvement upon the old, if that is possible.

"The Bell System has had its period of retardation, but so far never has gone backward, nor is there any indication that it ever will, if the policy of the future is as wise as the present is and the past has been.

"The one system idea brings with it its peculiar difficulties. The public have a dread of aggressiveness and exactions where they are dependent upon one system. This is cared for by commissions of control and regulation looking after the public interest, and in another way by the commitment of the Bell System to limit its dividends and payments on its securities to such an amount as is conceded to be fair and liberal enough to enable it to finance its operations at all times. Charges for service must be sufficient to provide amply for operating expenses, including fair wages, ample maintenance, and sufficient depreciation.

To Meet Demands of a Growing Country

"THE system must be increased as fast as the demands of a growing country call for service and as fast as new services are discovered and introduced. Whenever our earnings are in excess of requirements, if they are not absorbed by improvements in service, they are invested in plant which is not burdened with capital charges and which forms a safeguard against possible obsolescence on a large scale.

"These commitments make necessary readjustments in charges, and while we have had many reductions, we also have been obliged to ask for many rate increases. We can say that after a thorough presentation of our case, we have never been refused relief, with the possible exception of some negligible cases. We have been allowed many increases in rates in many cases during the last year, and there are several very important cases just now closing in which we have had most favorable consideration and which material increases are conceded. We have been so uniformly successful that we feel confident that in the future we shall continue to get ample justice and full consideration, and be allowed to earn all our charges with a safe margin, and that is all we should do.

"By being absolutely frank and fair and correct in all our presentations, we have established ourselves in the confidence of all public bodies with which we have relations, and it may be said that whatever we may present to any such bodies is accepted without suspicion of ulterior motives.

Comparisons With Previous Years

"AS already stated in 1916, we had an overburden of business which had to be taken care of with surplus plant and overburdened employees. As stated above, this was fully explained in the report of that year, and we recognized this by distributing a bonus which was charged to our total surplus to avoid a reopening of all the books of all the companies—an enormous task, in fact, impossible at that late day, as they had already been placed in the official records.

"If this bonus, which was in fact compensation for extra services, had been included in the operating expenses of the year, where it properly belonged, it would have made last year's surplus about the same at this year's which is greater than for the normal years of 1912, 1913, and 1914.

"The increase of surplus and reserve was $41,500,000 for 1917, a greater increase than for any previous year. The increase in outstanding obligations of the entire system was but $36,000,000, notwithstanding the great amount of work done. All these comparisons are of the Bell System.

"The reports of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company reflect only financial operations, and, as there was no extra distribution of the abnormal surplus of 1916, the balance of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company shows more uniformly. It was:

1917, in round numbers.....	$6,000,000
1916 " " "	6,900,000
1915 " " "	5,500,000
1914 " " "	4,800,000

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"The table at the foot of page 55 of the annual report will show the uniformity of the surplus of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

General Comment

"THIS year the readjustments of salaries and increased expenses show in the operating and other expense accounts.

"The average taxes per station have increased 50% and now amount to about 2% on the average investment per station.

"Our charges for depreciation have been maintained at the usual high standard. For some companies the limit of depreciation allowed by the commissions in some of the States has been reached.

"Notwithstanding the higher cost of labor and material, due to improvements in methods and plants, the average cost of plant per station increased less than 10% over last year.

"We consider the strength of our business is in the fact that it uniformly and healthily responds to prosperity, and never becomes dangerously depressed when the flood of prosperity recedes."

Stockholders Vote Appreciation

THE following resolution was offered by an out-of-town stockholder and unanimously carried:

RESOLVED: That the stockholders hereby express their appreciation of the services of President Vail in the broad, comprehensive policy he has so successfully carried forward toward the Company's present success, and in establishing the position and policy of public confidence in the Company.

Two New Exchanges in Brooklyn

"Evergreen" and "Sterling" Central Offices Provide Additional Facilities

By M. Greene, Wire Chief's Supervisor

IN these times, when matters pertaining to the war claim so much of our attention, an ordinary event like a cut-over seems insignificant.

Nevertheless, the addition of two new central offices in Brooklyn should not go unnoticed, for with all the activity and enormous investment required to meet the telephonic demands occasioned by the war, the Company is also continuing to meet the growing needs of the public for telephone communication socially and commercially. These make a total of eighteen central offices in the Borough, fifteen occupying their own buildings.

Evergreen

EVERGREEN occupies a building all its own, erected for the purpose at 680 Fairview Avenue, corner of Gates Avenue.

Ground was broken for the new building in July, 1916. The cut-over was originally scheduled for April, 1917, but because of the difficulty in securing material, was postponed several times. The new exchange was cut into service January 5, 1918.

The Evergreen district is a part of the old Bushwick district, lying half in Kings County and half in Queens. Evergreen subscribers were working temporarily in the Decatur switchboard. At the time of the cut-over, about 1850 lines were taken from the Decatur board and 250 coin box lines from Bushwick. The cut-over was made in the usual manner, by removing heat coils in the Bushwick office, through which all lines worked, and removing clips from the line relays in the new Evergreen office. In addition, it was necessary to cut back-taps on all the coin box lines. The cut-over took place shortly after 10 P. M. and occupied about one and one-half minutes. No trouble whatever was experienced.

Like all the other New York Telephone Company offices, Evergreen has a delightful Operators' Rest Room, where the girls spend many pleasant moments

Sterling

THE Sterling Central Office occupies the north wings of the third and fourth floors of the Clinton Avenue building, at 547 Clinton Avenue, where are also located the Prospect switchboard, Long Island Toll Board, and Central Information Bureau.

A new No. 12 wire chief's desk located in the Sterling terminal room was put into service last November and the Prospect office has been handled from that desk since that time. Both offices are now handled from the new desk.

Sterling was originally scheduled to be cut over in March, 1917, but was postponed because of labor and material shortage until February of this year. It was finally cut into service on February 2, at 3 P. M., about 900 lines being involved. The cut-over was made in the usual manner, by removing heat coils in the Pros-

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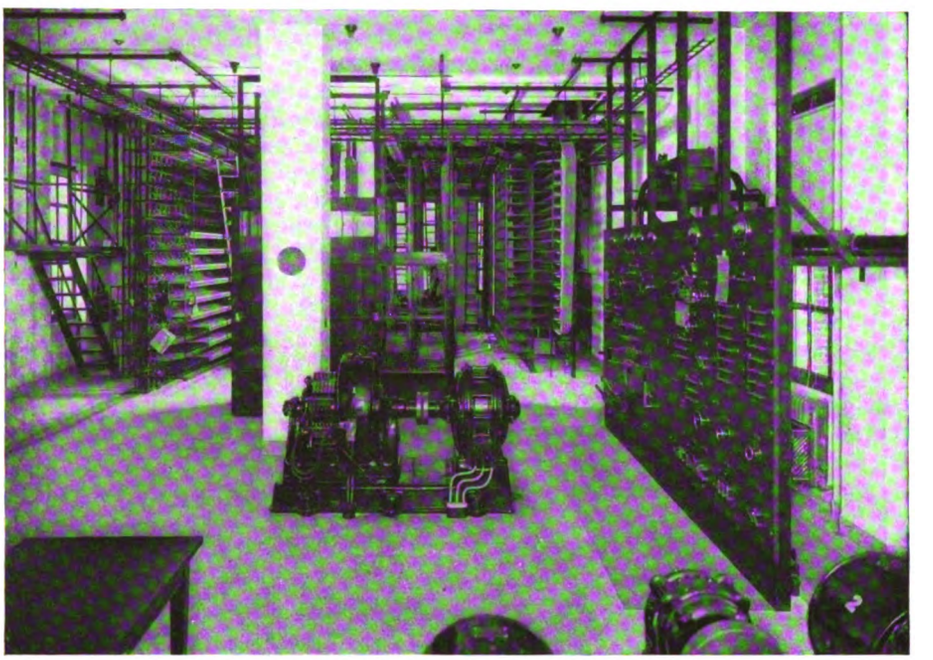
The new Evergreen Central Office, recently built, making the 18th provided to serve the residents of Brooklyn

pect office and removing clips from the line relays in the Sterling office. It was also necessary to cut back-taps on about 50 lines which were not connected through heat coils. Simultaneously with the cut-over of the subscriber lines, call circuit changes were made in every Brooklyn office and in practically all Manhattan offices. The entire operation occupied about thirty seconds and was effected without trouble of any kind.

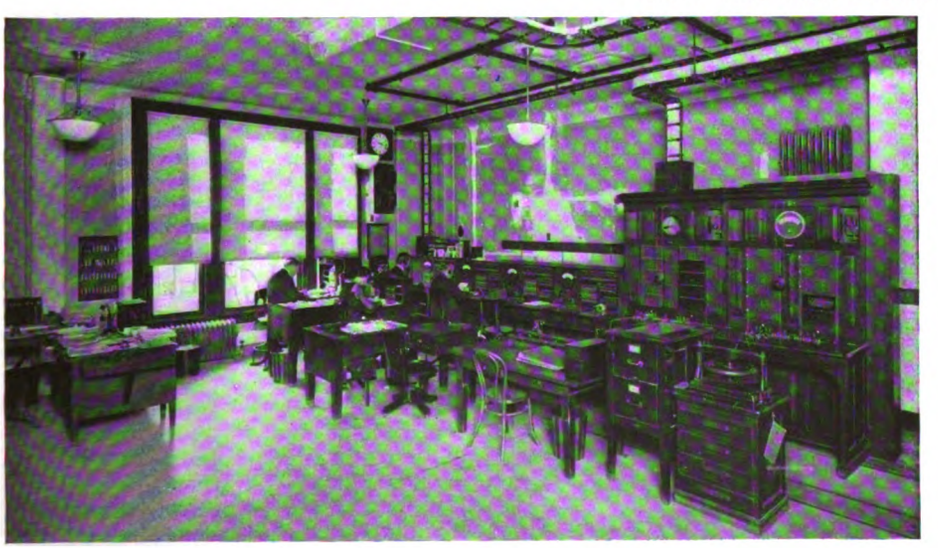
A local subscriber answered an operator's cheery "Number please?" by saying: "Central, are you the person that has the husband that sells the wood?" The operator decided that the matter was one for the supervisor to straighten out. It was found that a certain wood-man whose telephone calls were being temporarily transferred, had evidently notified his customers to call the operator for the number of the man who was taking his calls.

MISS M. HAIRE,

Chief Operator, Cohoes.



The power that controls the Prospect and Sterling Central offices and the Long Island Toll Board. Wire Chief's Headquarters in the Sterling Terminal Room



Terminal Room, Evergreen Central Office, cut into service on January 5, 1918

The Honor Roll

EDWARD W. HOBERG, of the Brooklyn installation force, enlisted in the Second Telegraph Battalion in June, 1917, and proceeded to France with the Telegraph Battalion.

He was forced to return to the United States on account of illness contracted in the performance of his duty in France, and after a brief period spent at Army Hospitals, he was discharged from the Army. He then returned to the service of the New York Telephone Company, and is now recuperating in the Adirondack Mountains.

Mr. Hoberg's ambition was to serve his country and it was with regret and keen disappointment that he was forced to part with his comrades and co-workers in France and return home.

His name was inadvertently omitted from the Honor Roll printed in February, and also from the list of men in the service to whom Christmas boxes were sent. A box has been made up and sent to him.

John F. McCarthy, Jr.'s name was also omitted from the Honor Roll. He is a member of the Coast Artillery Corps, U. S., and stationed at Port Newark, New Jersey.

AMERICAN SENTRY TELEPHONING: "One hundred Germans advancing on my post. Please send one rifle and one hundred cartridges at once."

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A Rush Installation for United States Navy Department

Contributed by H. D. Saunders, District Engineer, Newark

THOSE "at home on the old job" are always a part of that great industrial army behind the front lines which is backing our boys in uniform, but sometimes an added opportunity is given, in connection with the regular work, to be of active service to Uncle Sam. This was the case when the New Jersey Plant Department was called upon to make a rush installation for the United States Navy, and completed the task in record time. They proved that "Over Here" telephone employees are one hundred per cent. in efficiency and patriotism, as well as "Over There," and that by our increased efforts, stimulus, together with materials, is being provided for those heroic comrades who are engaged in their duty in France.

In September, 1917, the Navy Department arranged with the Western Electric Company to install all private branch exchange systems in Army transports, thus turning over to that Company work which the Navy Department had previously performed. The New Jersey Division and the Long Island Division Plant Departments, in co-operation with the Western Electric Company, have equipped most of the transports with these systems since that date.

Work Commences

IN December, 1917, an order was received by the New Jersey Division Plant Department, to install a switchboard cable system, to which were to be connected fifty instruments on the U. S. S. Covington (formerly the Hamburg-American Liner Cincinnati) on her arrival in this country from "Somewhere in France." It was not until February 13, that this Department received official notice that the steamship had docked in the New York Harbor and that the installation work could commence. At noon of the same day, when the boat had been located, H. D. Saunders, district plant engineer of Newark, William Simonds, chief foreman installation; and H. M. Benham, construction supervisor, boarded the boat to plan the necessary work.

The first and most important fact that was ascertained on the tour of inspection with a representative of the Navy Department, was that the boat was scheduled to sail as soon as possible, and that the entire installation had to be completed on February 16. This left only three days for the entire job instead of ten days or two weeks, the time generally allowed on jobs of a similar nature.

Hurry Order for Materials Rushed

AT four o'clock in the afternoon the inspection of the boat was completed and the Western Electric Company was advised by telephone of the material which could be furnished from their stocks. This material was delivered at 10 A. M. on the following day. The other material required was obtained from the New Jersey Division stocks. The switchboard with the ringing and charging machines, the storage batteries, and the instruments, had been previously purchased from the Western Electric Company by the Navy Department, and these also were delivered on the same day by the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Complete plans of the cable installation were prepared and delivered to the Construction and Installation Departments the day after the inspection. On February 14, the Installation Department under the supervision of Supervising Foreman Rinker, of Jersey City, started the installation work, and in three days exactly the work was completed, for at 7 P. M. on February 16, the men had finished, having worked only ninety-six hours of overtime.

The efficient work of the Installation Department can better be appreciated when it is realized that within this time one 60-lamp switchboard, with charging and ringing machines, was wired up, and fifty extension telephones were placed throughout the boat, involving the placing of 3,000 feet of No. 18 bridle wire and 225 feet lx lead covered cable. The wiring of the stations, moreover, was concealed and where run on the iron work of the boat, it was necessary to drill and tap holes which made the work much more difficult than an ordinary installation.

Every Obstacle Was Overcome

THE placing of the cable to which the telephones were wired by the Installation Department was begun on February 14, at 1 P. M., under the direction of Supervising Foreman Hankinson, and was completed at 1 P. M. on February 16, with the exception of the placing of the terminal closet which had not arrived from Newark. On the same day, however, this closet was placed in the switchboard room.

In this short time—just two days—950 feet of cable and eleven No. 14 terminals were placed under the most difficult conditions. The placing of cable on a boat involves a difficult situation, not met with in installing a similar amount of cable in a building. In this case a number of cable runs required the drilling of bulk heads, and at points where cable was placed through the bulk heads, water-tight joints were required by the Navy Department. Difficulties were also encountered in the elevator shaft used for the riser cable, because of the steel construction of the boat and lack of sufficient room in which to work. In spite of these difficulties sufficient cable was placed, so that the splicing was started under the direction of Supervising Foreman Koehler, of Jersey City, on February 15, at 10.30 A. M. At 12 o'clock on February 16, twenty splices containing over 1,000 pairs of wires were completed.

High Standard of Work Met With

AN inspection of the completed work by a representative of the Navy Department showed that it met with their approval and that the entire job was of the same high standard as previous ones of this nature, in spite of the speed with which it was done.

While the job differed in no way from others which have been done by the New Jersey Plant Department, the time element involved made it necessary for every one to work at top speed. In completing the job without defects of any nature in the time specified, the men who were engaged on the work rightly feel that they may have done their bit in a small way to help win the war.

Louis N. Brant

LOUIS N. BRANT, local commercial manager, Jersey City, died on the 7th inst., after an illness of a few weeks.

Mr. Brant entered the service of the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company on January 30, 1899, as a clerk in the Newark Office. He continued in that position until May 1, 1907, when he was appointed local commercial manager of the Orange District, which position he held until January 1, 1917, when he was appointed local commercial manager of Jersey City District. He was forty-six years of age when he died.

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The Target Range Telephone Signalling System at the Plattsburg Military Training Camp

By W. J. Vincent, Superintendent of Maintenance, Mountain Home Telephone Company, Plattsburg, N. Y.

The commanding officer, Colonel Wolf, at his desk in the Administration Building

PLATTSBURG was often the scene of battle during the two wars when America and England were enemies, but the foes of former wars have now become allies arrayed against a common enemy, and the whirligig of time that brought it about has also transformed the military activities of this historic place.

The Military Training Camp at Plattsburg overlooks Lake Champlain and the very spots where the Battle of Valcour and the Battle of Plattsburg were fought,—the first and last important naval engagements between the two English-speaking nations.

In their hikes about the surrounding country, the troops in training are reminded of our second strife with England, by the numerous historic landmarks and tablets which mark the locations of skirmishes of that war. So, when the great wave of war preparation started, Plattsburg was very appropriately chosen as the location for one of the first camps for training army officers.

The Making of a Training Camp

A REGULAR army barracks has been located at Plattsburg since the War of 1812, and several of the old stone buildings are still in use. The administration building, officers' residences, and regulars' quarters are of brick construction and form a large horseshoe, the enclosure of which contains a parade ground, second to none for size and beauty. Shortly after the training camp was inaugurated, the Government purchased considerable land, adjacent to the barracks, and the two tracts were merged into one large training camp, which with its many natural advantages and excellent target range now ranks among the best in the United States.

Realizing that an important part of a soldier's training is the use of a rifle, the commanding officer, Colonel Paul A. Wolf, who is an authority on target range practice, planned to enlarge the old barracks target range and equip it throughout with modern range appliances, including a telephone signalling system which would provide continuous service, even under the most adverse conditions.

The Telephone in Rifle Practice

IT was about that time, which was shortly before war was declared, that the Mountain Home Telephone Company was given complete charge of the telephone facilities at the training camp, and was asked by the Government to submit specifications and an estimate for the installation of an absolutely reliable telephone and bell signalling system for the new range.

The system in use had embodied many objectionable operating features, foremost of which were the stringing and coiling up of long flexible wires from the field telephones to both ends of the firing line, where jack boxes were located, every time the range was used. As these wires lay exposed on the ground, they were frequently damaged by officers' horses, army trucks, et cetera, making the service over these circuits very uncertain.

The requirements of the Signal Corps called for telephone communication between the target pits, technically known as the butts, and firing lines, and a system of bells confined to the butts.

Installation of Target Range Telephone and Bell System

THE specifications were finally drawn, contemplating a complete underground cable system, extending from the butts to the outlet boxes just back of each firing line, and the placing of all wires in the butts in iron conduit. The bid was then formally submitted, and accepted with instructions to prosecute the work with dispatch.

Owing to delays in getting material, the signalling system was not completely installed by the time the students were ready for rifle practice, but a temporary system consisting of No. 18 twisted pair bridle wire was laid in plow furrows across the range at the firing line and down one side of the range to the butts,

Field telephone at the firing line showing an outlet box and the method of making connections. Note the steel plate protecting the outlet box

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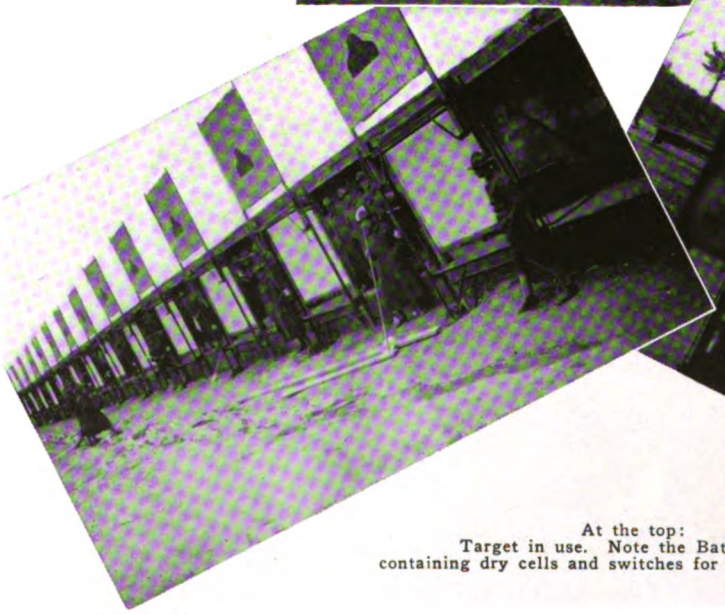
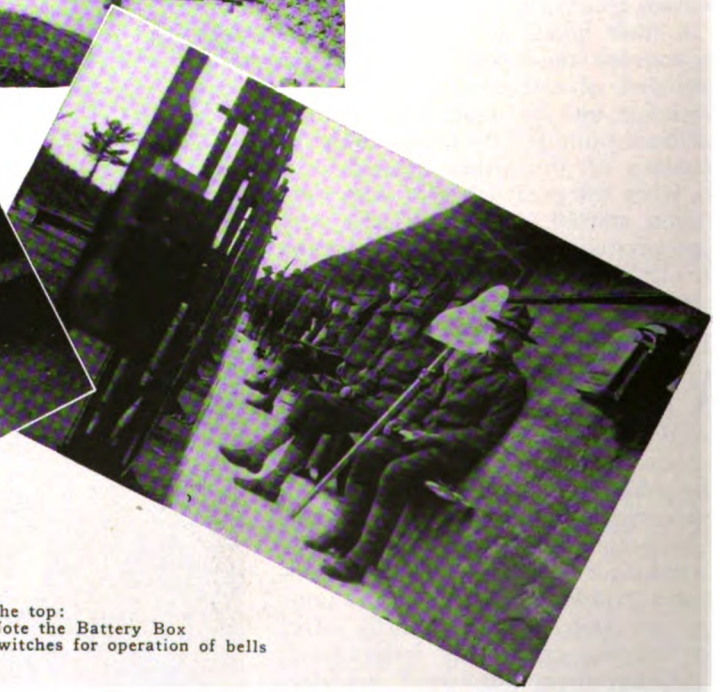
A general view of the firing line in operation. The telephone bench can be seen in the background

At the top:
Target in use. Note the Battery Box containing dry cells and switches for operation of bells



At the left:
Another view of butts, showing the "D" targets in use



At the right:
Waiting for orders between firing periods. Note the mine type of telephone in foreground

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A general view of the butts, showing telephone and iron box containing cable terminals from which twisted pair wires run through conduit to the telephones

so that the rifle practice started on schedule time.

The enlarged range is 1,000 feet wide and 3,000 feet long. The butts extend the entire width of the range and contain seventy-two machines by which the targets are raised and lowered. Large numbers on top of the embankment directly behind and just above the targets designate the targets. Corresponding numbers appear on short posts at the firing lines of which there are four, spaced two, three, five, and six hundred yards from the targets. There are twelve Western Electric mine telephones permanently fastened to the wall of the butts and equally spaced, so that a group of six targets is associated with each telephone.

The outlet boxes are located about twenty feet behind the firing line, corresponding in position with their respective telephones in the butts. The circuits are in lead-covered paper-insulated cable placed in iron conduit from the butts to the manholes at the firing lines, where single pair lead-covered steel armored cables from the outlet boxes are spliced to the main cable.

At some of the target ranges, terminals are placed in manholes for cross connecting purposes, but this invariably results in considerable trouble from moisture, even when the terminals are fitted with gaskets.

Importance of Telephone in Rifle Practice

THE underground cables terminate at the butts in No. 14 terminals, placed in iron boxes from which No. 18 twisted pair bridle wires run in conduit to the mine telephones. At the right of each telephone is a strap key and a weather-proof bell wired so that all bells ring simultaneously when any one of the keys is depressed. By means of switches in the battery-box which is located midway from the ends of the butts, it is possible to operate each half of the range separately. The simultaneous operation of all bells makes it possible for all men at the targets to get the signal for either up or down with the targets at the same time. This is particularly important during rapid-fire practice when all targets must be uniformly raised and lowered.

The outlet boxes are No. 2 R. F. receptacles mounted on four by six-inch wood posts about four inches above the ground and protected from stray bullets by one-half-inch steel plates fastened to the back of the posts. The targets are of wood

View in butts, showing in detail the mine telephone, strap key in iron box, and weather-proof bell

Field telephones in use at the firing line

Officer in charge at firing line giving orders from an elevated platform

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frames covered with paper, and there are two on each machine. While one target is up, the other is down where the hits can be observed and the bullet holes covered with square paper pasters, so that subsequent hits will not be confused with previous shots.

There are three types of targets used, known as "A," "D," and "H" types. The "A" target is the familiar shooting gallery target with the black circular area in the center or bull's-eye, and black circular lines marking areas outside of the bull's-eye.

The "D" target is a black silhouette of head and shoulder on white paper, while the "H" target is of pasteboard shaped like the outline of a head and shoulder and painted a dull color. It is fastened to the end of a wooden rod by which it is raised above the butts.

The rifle practice usually starts in the morning about seven o'clock. The firing squads march to the firing line and are assigned their order of shooting. Directly behind each firing point is a scorer at a table, and a few feet behind the scorers are the field telephones on benches, one for each group of six firing points.

The men take their places at the firing line and the officer in command, after learning by telephone that everything is O.K. in the butts, calls through a megaphone, "Are you ready at the right?" Receiving a reply in the affirmative from the officer in charge of the squads at the right, the commanding officer turns and asks the same question of the officer in charge of the men at the left. If the men at the left are ready, the officer in charge at the butts is notified by telephone to raise the targets. The officer in the butts getting this order presses the strap key once and all men get ready at the targets; two rings and all targets go up together. The firing starts immediately, and after the round of shells has been fired, the targets are lowered and the hits counted. If the target is missed altogether, the score is zero. The scores are signalled to the scorer at the firing line by round discs held in front of the targets to indicate the location of the bullet holes. While the scores are signalled by means of flags and markers, they are generally verified by telephone, so that the telephone is in nearly constant use during rifle practice.

The "D" target is marked off in a way similar to the "A" target so that the hits can be properly scored. The "H" target on account of its head and shoulder shape is used in trench battle drill. At 500 yards these targets rising just above the embankment of the butts have a striking resemblance to actual men coming "over the top."

System an Efficient One

THE durability and increased efficiency of this target range telephone and bell system were so pronounced, even at the outset, that the Signal Corps Department of the East adopted it as standard and the same system was installed at other target ranges.

Sleet Storm Causes Heavy Damage to Telephone System

Contributed by Arthur L. Fox, Division Plant Engineer, Syracuse

ONE of the most severe sleet storms of recent years in the western section of New York State caused such extensive damage to the telephone system there that it required record-breaking efforts on the part of the Plant Department Forces to restore the service. When the early morning light of Saturday, February 9, revealed the devastation which the elements had conspired to produce on the previous day and night, the men responsible for the reconstruction knew that an almost unprecedented job awaited them.

A Storm of a Velocity of 50 Miles an Hour

AS the storm was so unusual in character, with heavy gales from the south which at times attained a velocity of fifty miles or more, and with sheets of rain which froze in the air, very few obstacles in the way escaped its fury. The miles of poles torn from the ground and the entangled wires wrested from their fastenings looked as if some giant in rage had pulled and twisted in his hands section after section of the orderly arrangement of telephone lines, as well as fences and trees on his route. The poles that were not completely felled were balancing, as it were, at all angles along the highways, and the wires lost themselves tangling in the crossarms and wreckage. The storm had not even stopped there, but had completed its work of ruin by covering everything with a thick coating of ice, making repair work doubly hard.

The affected area extended a distance of about ninety miles or more in the vicinity of Syracuse, but the worst damage was done to the lines extending in an easterly and westerly direction. With one exception, all toll and long distance lines leading out of Syracuse were entirely out of commission.

"Selective" Draft Gives Way to General Draft in Organizing Relief Squad

IN organizing the forces to cope with the situation, even the Government's system of draft was outdone, for the services of employees in the Cable, Supply, and Plant Engineering Departments were drawn upon indiscriminately for all kinds of jobs, regardless of "Selective" methods. This included office men, splicers, right of way agents, and others, and the work that was accomplished by thus combining forces greatly expedited the restoration of service.

The work of temporary restoration was unusually difficult, owing to the almost impassable conditions of the roads. Stormy weather during the months of December and January had filled the highways with snow, which, as soon as the temperature moderated, became soft and made progress slow and difficult, especially in the northern section, where it was necessary for the men to travel on snow-shoes for several days.

Many Exchanges Isolated

APPROXIMATELY 50 trunk circuits, not including the American Telephone & Telegraph lines, were out of service on Saturday, which meant that many exchanges were completely isolated as far as telephone communication with other points was concerned. Two carloads of emergency material were immediately hastened to the scene of action, one from Buffalo and one from New York.

Although heavy winds prevailed during the work of reconstruction, making it necessary to cover many of the lines several times, the men put untiring energy into their work and were proud on Sunday evening of the fact that service on fifty trunk lines had been restored. This provided at least one outlet for such points as had been completely isolated, as well as trunks between the important centers and facilities for a portion of the American Telephone & Telegraph's leased wire service. By Thursday practically the entire system had been restored.

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Scenes Showing Havoc Wrought by Storm in the Central Division on February 9, 1918

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A Commissary Experiment

By A. C. Pilger and H. M. Benham, Construction Supervisors, New Jersey Division

ON December 8, 1917, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company arranged to have our Plant forces in the New Jersey Division install about a nine mile run of the Boston-Washington Cable between the 33-mile limit south of New Brunswick and the Princeton Test Station.

Along this section the New York-Philadelphia subway follows the Trenton Turnpike, which is mostly unimproved, and passes through flat open country having very little drainage; consequently, from a telephone standpoint, the water conditions are unusually bad.

With the exception of New Brunswick, which is five miles from the nearest end of the job, the only towns or railway stations from which this work could be handled were Franklin Park and Kingston, which are about one and one-half miles west of the Trenton Turnpike, and Deans and Monmouth Junction, which are about the same distance east of our subway. It was to the three towns last mentioned that the 100 reels of cable for this work were shipped.

Our work consisted of hauling this cable to the line of the subway, placing and splicing it, and returning the empty reels and lags to the freight yards for reshipment to the Western Electric Company.

Need of a Commissary

NOW each of the four small towns referred to above boasted of but a single country hotel of very limited capacity. For this reason, together with the fact that these towns were distantly located from the job, and, further, because we were compelled to use a large force in order to complete the work on schedule, it was obvious at the outset that it would be necessary to make special arrangements for boarding our men.

On account of the urgency of the work, it was desirable to obtain equipment as soon as possible, of such a character that it could be set up quickly and moved from place to place along the line of the job, as the work progressed, with a minimum of expense and loss of time. Accordingly, it was decided to procure the following outfit:—

1 Mess tent including kitchen space—20′ x 40′.

1 Small tent for containing supplies—10′ x 12′.

You don't have to be a soldier to eat in a mess tent. This one, lighted by acetylene tanks mounted on tent poles, is part of the commissary equipment recently used by the Plant forces, New Jersey division. In it 7,000 meals were served while the job was in progress

Floors, benches, tables, shelves, et cetera, built from rough lumber.

3 Oil stoves with ovens of the 3-burner type.

6 Oil heaters.

2 60-gallon oil tanks.

Dishes and kitchen utensils as required.

A number of acetylene tanks for illuminating purposes, both in the tent and on the job, and

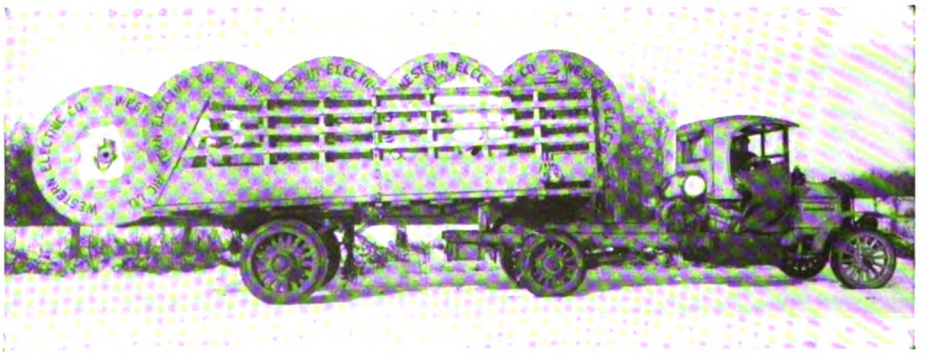
Last, but by no means least, a competent Chef and two assistants.

While this work was under way the force varied between thirty and eighty-five men, and meals were served at all hours of the day and night, for it was necessary, owing to the water conditions, to work continuously on many of the splices until they were completed.

Practical and Economical

THE question will no doubt be raised by many, particularly those interested in this kind of work, as to whether or not this method of boarding our men resulted successfully, both from a practicable and economical standpoint.

As to the question of practicability, we would say that the meager facilities in this section for accommodating the men left us no other feasible choice. Even so, it can readily be seen that if the commissary had not been properly conducted and the food supply been generous and of good quality, it would have been considered unsatisfactory by our men, especially



Five-ten tractor and ten-ton trailer, with which Chauffeur Strack and his helper Wiesenstein, of the Automobile Department, carted 60 empty reels from the line of the subway to freight stations in one-half day. These reels are loaded two abreast and hoisted aboard two at a time, without skids, by means of the power winch

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as the long hours, bad water conditions, and intensely cold weather proved to be very trying. We feel entirely justified in saying, however, that the men were unanimously satisfied and enthusiastic in regard to the treatment they received at the Mess Tent, and we believe, moreover, that our men were enabled physically to endure the trying conditions far better under this arrangement than under any other practical plan which we could have adopted.

In regard to the question of economy, it should first be explained that as the work progressed, the commissary outfit was moved along the line, so that the loss of time by our men in traveling to and from the tent was reduced to a minimum; secondly, that for a considerable portion of the time while this work was under way, our force was so large that only about one half of our men could have been served by the nearest hotel; finally, that we served a large number of meals at midnight to the splicing and testing forces, for which meals the local hotels would no doubt have made an extra charge, if indeed arrangements could have been made for them at all.

Aside from the intangible advantages of furnishing our men with proper food, we saved about 45c per meal, making liberal allowances for the fixed charges on the equipment used. As we served over 7,000 meals during this job and on the portion of the work in our own territory, a net saving of over $3,000.00 was made with our outfit that cost only $650.00.

Telephone Club Activities

Bronx Night

A "GET TOGETHER" dinner was given at the Telephone Club by the employees and ex-employees of the Bronx and their friends on February 6. After the six course dinner to the music of a Jazz band, Mr. Brackenridge, Bronx District commercial manager, the toastmaster, made a speech of welcome, and expressed the feelings of regret of all present at the unavoidable absence of Mr. Pollock, division commercial manager.

With witty remarks the toastmaster introduced the speakers of the evening, who were: S. H. Crampton, division superintendent of construction; G. V. W. Pelz, Harlem District commercial manager; William F. Schmidt, division advertising supervisor; H. J. Carroll, manager of the Lecture Bureau; E. A. Girard, division auditor of receipts, Harlem; M. J. King, Murray Hill District commercial manager; C. S. Harris, Bronx District traffic manager; P. E. Mahoney, Tremont local commercial manager; F. R. Guy, Intervale local commercial manager; J. W. Jones, local commercial manager, Melrose.

After the dinner with its jolly good fellowship as revealed in the speeches and songs, many took part in the amusements of bowling and pool. The big contest of the evening was a bowling match for the "Bronx Cup" with three competing teams, Melrose, Tremont, and Intervale. There was great rivalry for the prize, and Tremont won by only a slight margin.

Westchester Night

THE Westchester Division enjoyed an evening of social intercourse on February 21, when the doors of the Telephone Club in New York were opened to the employees of this Division and their friends. Over five hundred persons were gathered in the Assembly room and were addressed by E. R. Chamberlain, local commercial manager, Mt. Vernon District, who extended a hearty and cordial welcome. He said that every man and woman in the Westchester organization had a real pride in the Company of which they were a part, and by "getting together" and working together, Westchester Division could be placed at the head of the list in point of efficiency in their service, not only to the public, but to the Company.

During the evening bowling contests were held between teams from the Commercial, Construction, Plant, and Traffic Departments. The cup was won by the Construction Department team, which outstripped the other teams from the beginning. The champions have challenged any team that will play with them.

The entertainment started with an overture of patriotic airs played by an orchestra comprised of Westchester Division employees. Marie Collier, a dainty little miss, recited the poem "Our Flag." As she neared the end, a uniformed sailor of the U. S. S. Recruit, bearing aloft Our Flag, marched down the center aisle to the stage, which brought the audience to their feet. The "Star Spangled Banner" was then enthusiastically sung by the entire audience.

Jerseymen's Raid

By Grayne O. Sault
(New Jersey War Correspondent)

TELEPHONE Club, March 16. (Delayed by Censor).—Early in the afternoon of March 16, a raiding party of 100 New Jersey Division Commercial men crossed the Hudson under cover of a heavy barrage, swept into the Telephone Club trenches, carrying first, second, and third lines without serious loss, and looting Quartermaster Pierce's commissary so thoroughly that there were no remains. "It was the most remarkable example of Hooverism, carried out to the *n*th degree, I have ever seen," said Pierce when questioned two days after he had partially recovered.

The Jerseymen told off five-men squads representing the Northern, Central, and Southern sections of their own territory, and armed with hand grenades they cleaned up the bowling trenches.

Following this onslaught the Jerseymen rushed the communication trenches to the commissary department and cleaned up so thoroughly that Quartermaster Pierce was pleased that the dishes actually were left. Then came a bit of rifle firing and sniping, which brought out a new hero in the person of Martin Issler, victor in the golf putting contest. George Hafstrom took second honors, and Frank Galvin third.

The Jerseymen deny that there was anything approaching "schrechlichkeit" in the singing of C. F. McCord and G. F. Anderson, assisted at the piano by Orr, of Elizabeth—in fact they claim that the harmony men took the place by storm.

The decorations awarded:

Five-men team bowling for division championship: Won by Central team (H. Untiedt, T. Hann, S. Neville, W. Curtis, J. Toohey); score, 2325; high individual score, S. Neville, 182. Second, Southern team (J. G. Webster, A. O. Taylor, T. Little, J. N. Newkirk, S. E. Leeds); score, 2232; high individual score, Webster, 207. Third, Northern team (W. Skidmore, H. Towe, C. Roscoe, S. Gaylord, C. McGowan); score, 1927; high individual score, C. Roscoe, 172.

Eighteen-hole golf putting contest, won by Martin Issler, score, 62. Second, George Hafstrom. Third, Frank Galvin.

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Telephones Affected by Great Flood

Contributed by J. A. Striker, Local Manager

WHEN the Genesee River went on a rampage the latter part of February it endeavored to take the town of Mt. Morris off the map. Mt. Morris is one of the small centers of traffic in lumber and farm produce, at the junction of three railroads, and is located in the western part of New York State in the farming country of the Genesee Valley.

This place, as well as the outlying partially developed districts, has been well provided with telephone facilities, and it is in such partly isolated farming sections that the value of the telephone reaches its fullest meaning. The fact that the wires reach out from the larger centers to the solitary houses, sometimes great distances apart, here and there among the fields, makes for commercial and social unity and advancement which otherwise would be impossible. The Telephone Company in this respect has not only kept up with development, but has preceded it in a creative way.

A Flood That Knew No Bounds

THE telephone lines of Mt. Morris came in for their share of damage in the general havoc that followed the huge ice jam that came down the river. It was a flood that broke all records of previous high water marks, and created conditions necessitating abandonment of houses, the discontinuance of all business, and extensive relief work. Large cakes of ice battered against and smashed many poles carrying the wires of the local service, as well as the long distance lines of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company. The flood waters swept a large barn from its foundations and tossed it against the wires that extended along the highway leading to the town.

As the power house was unable to run after the damage caused by the force of the water, it was not possible to obtain electric current in sufficient quantity to charge the batteries at the Central Office of the New York Telephone Company. To meet this emergency a charging set consisting of a Delco Unit was sent by truck from Rochester. This was installed under the supervision of the Wire Chief's Supervisor, A. A. Nobles, in a shed in the rear of the Telephone Building, and the necessary current was thus supplied, eliminating all danger of interruption to telephone service.

Barn swept by the flood from its foundation and tossed against the telephone line on the Genesee-Mt. Morris highway

The Telephone Company Renders Assistance

MANY Italian families who were forced from their homes by the rising waters were cared for at the Village Building, provisions being furnished by the townspeople. The employees of the New York Telephone Company made special efforts to bring relief to these families. Although most of the families near the river waded through the cold water surrounding their houses to safety, several were trapped in the upper stories until rescuers in rowboats brought them food and finally took them out. When the flood was commencing, a driver of an express wagon on the way to the village was caught in the water and was obliged to cut the harness and ride his horse to safety.

The Commercial Office of the New York Telephone Company was hospitably opened to the Winters and Prophet Canning Company whose offices were flooded, preventing the transaction of any business there. The flood lasted almost two days, but when the water finally receded, it left large fields of ice and other débris, so that the roads were made impassable. Gangs of workmen immediately set to work to clear passage ways, which was a long, tedious task. The total damage amounted to thousands of dollars, and it will be a long time before the village recovers from this flood. However, the telephone damage was immediately repaired and there was practically no discontinuance of the service. The Telephone Company rendered assistance, not only in keeping in communication with the outside world and the town itself, but in giving assistance in relief work.

When the Genesee River overflowed its banks, it broke all records of previous high water marks. Conditions under which trouble-men had to work in order to repair lines

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

Non-Confiscatory Rate May Be Unreasonable. Too Low a Rate as Unreasonable as One Too High

THE Collingswood Sewerage Company, which operated in the Borough of Collingswood under a municipal consent which fixed the maximum and minimum rates to be charged, applied to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey for permission to increase its rates, and the Board, having fixed the value of the company's property and ascertained its gross income, its operating expenses, and its net revenue, found that the return upon the investment under the company's present rates was more than three per cent. and that, therefore, the higher rates could not be authorized since the present rates were not so low as to be confiscatory. The Board made no findings as to whether the present rates were just and reasonable, sufficient or insufficient. Numerous applications had been made to the Board for orders requiring the company to make extensions of its service and, as to these, the Board reported that, while there was no doubt as to their desirability, it was not reasonable or practicable to require the company to make them, in view of its present financial condition. Accordingly, the Board suggested that the matter be given serious consideration by the Borough, since it might be that relief could be had only by municipal action which would make it possible for the company to obtain new capital.

The Sewerage Company thereupon sought by certiorari to have the decision of the Board reviewed by the New Jersey Supreme Court, and said court, Judge Francis J. Swayze writing the opinion, set aside the order of the Board, pointing out that by the provisions of the Public Utility Act the Board was required to fix just and reasonable individual rates for the Sewerage Company, and that the question was not whether the company's existing rates were confiscatory, but whether they were just and reasonable. The court states that the company was therefore entitled to a formal determination of its claim that its existing rates were unjust and unreasonable, and that this right had not been met by the Board's adjudication that its existing rates were not so low as to be confiscatory.

As to the right of the Board to alter rates fixed in the consent given to the company by the Borough, the court states that a mere reading of the Public Utility Act shows that the legislature intended to invest the Board with full power to fix rates; that, moreover, the contract ordinance in question was the legislative act of a municipality, and as such was subject to the control of the legislature which could make changes therein as long as it did not infringe the rights of the Sewerage Company. The power of the legislature over corporations created for the purposes of local government is supreme and it may alter, modify, or repeal the charter of a municipality at any time in its discretion. The only limitation on the operating of such repeal is as to creditors, that it shall not operate to impair the obligation of existing contracts or deprive them of any remedy for enforcing such contracts which existed when they were made. This rule applies with all the more force to changes of the terms of municipal ordinances granting rights to public utility companies, so far as concerns the rights of the municipalities themselves, because, in fixing the terms, the municipal authorities do not act for the local interests of the municipality, but "as public officers exercising quasi-judicial authority."

As to contracts between individuals and the Sewerage Company, the court held that all were subject to the power of the State to regulate rates, which power is a governmental function and cannot be contracted away, even by a municipality, unless specially authorized by the legislature. Much less can this governmental power be hampered without clear legislative authority by a contract between a private corporation and private citizens. The government has never granted this governmental power to private citizens, and, in the absence of such a grant, no contract can diminish the government's right of control.

The court, therefore, held that the power of the legislature was untrammeled by any possible impairment of the obligations of contracts within the meaning of the federal or State constitutions and was equally untrammeled, so far as the rights of the municipality were concerned, by the 14th amendment to the federal constitution since, if the ordinance and consent granted to the company herein could be said to have created a property right in the municipality, that right was subject to legislative control.

Judge Swayze further points out that there can be no doubt as to the right of the Commission to raise rates as well as to lower them. Said power is given by Section 16c of the Public Utility Act which authorizes the Commission, after hearing, to fix just and reasonable individual rates whenever an existing rate is unjust, unreasonable, insufficient, or unjustly discriminatory or preferential. A rate may be unjust and unreasonable because too low, as well as because too high, and the statute aims to secure justice to both sides. If the words, "just and reasonable," were not enough, the inclusion of the case where the existing rate is "insufficient" would remove all doubt. Injustice and unreasonableness, due to an insufficient rate, can only be corrected by raising it; and injustice, due to discrimination or preference, may require that one rate be raised or that another be lowered in order to produce a rate that shall be just and reasonable. Only by adhering to the express language of said Section 16c of the Act can the result be reached that is set forth in Section 15, *i.e.*, that the Board shall have general supervision and regulation of, jurisdiction and control over, all public utilities and over their property, property rights, equipments, facilities, and franchises so far as necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act.

Further, the court states that the Board had therefore failed to decide in express terms the question which the statute required it to decide—whether the rates were just and rea-

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sonable. Instead of deciding that question it decided only that the rates were not confiscatory. The Board was not authorized to pass on that question; its duty was to determine what rates were just and reasonable, and a rate may well be unjust and unreasonable, although not confiscatory. The court states that while the Board did not decide this question in express terms, it did, by implication, decide it adversely to the municipality, since it found that extensions of the company's system were desirable, but not reasonable or practicable, in view of the company's financial condition, and declined to order such extensions, but suggested municipal action which would make it possible for the company to obtain new capital. This amounted to turning over to the Borough a duty which the statute imposes on the Board. One of the objects meant to be secured by the statute was adequate and proper service for the public (not merely for those entitled to service with "present facilities"), by order of the Board, including reasonable extensions where they will permit sufficient business to justify construction and maintenance, and when the financial condition of the public utility reasonably warrants the original expenditure required. The Board in effect, and, by inference, found that the present service was not adequate; that extensions were reasonable and practicable, and that the financial condition of the company could be made to justify the expenditures, and that new capital could be obtained for the purpose, if the municipality would consent to a modification of rates. If this view was correct, the Board should have ordered the necessary modification of rates, and should not have shifted the responsibility to the municipality.

The court, therefore, directed that the order of the Board be set aside and that the case be remitted in order that the Board might make proper findings.

State May Waive Contract Rights of Its Political Subdivisions

WILLIAM J. BORMAN and other citizens of Belfast complained to the Public Utilities Commission of Maine, that the Belfast Water Company, which had contracted with the City of Belfast to supply said city and its inhabitants with water at rates, not in excess of those charged in other towns and cities of Maine of the general size and circumstance of Belfast and similarly situated, had violated said contract, and was charging rates that exceeded those in other similar towns and cities.

The Commission dismissed the complaint holding that even assuming that the city had the power to contract with the water company concerning domestic rates, which was doubtful, the contract had been superseded by the Public Utilities Law which requires that the rates of a public utility shall be reasonable, taking into consideration the fair value of all of the company's property with a fair return thereon. The Commission points out that the legislature may waive any contract rights of one of the political subdivisions of the State, and that the constitutional limitations which prevent the legislature from impairing the obligation of contracts do not debar it from annuling contract obligations due to the public. Contracts upon subjects which are within the police power, even though valid when made, must be taken to have been entered into in view of the continuing power of the State to control the rates to be charged by public service corporations.

Statute Requiring the Carriage of State Officials Free of Charge Unconstitutional

ERNEST NAPIER, one of the Fish and Game Commissioners of New Jersey, boarded a train of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad at Orange in that State, for the purpose of traveling on official business to Hackettstown, New Jersey, and tendered the conductor a certificate issued by the Secretary of State, pursuant to chapter 194 of the laws of 1914, which authorized Napier, as such official, to pass and repass without payment of fare over all railroads in New Jersey. The conductor refused to honor this certificate and upon payment of fare being refused ejected Napier from the train. Napier sued the company for damages, and there was judgment for the company, whereupon Napier appealed.

The Court of Errors and Appeals in affirming the judgment for defendant held that the statute in question, in so far as it required the railroad companies to convey the members of the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners free of charge, was unconstitutional, since the legislature had no power to enact a law which would in effect take the property of a railroad company without providing compensation therefor. The court points out that the statute in question seeks to deprive the company without due process of law of its property right to collect a fare from state officers and employees, and that this constitutes a taking of property without just compensation, and is, therefore, violative of both the 14th amendment of the Constitution of the United States and of paragraph 16 of article 1 of the Constitution of New Jersey.

Sheriffs and Other Officials Not Entitled to Free Transportation in Lieu of Fees

THE State of Virginia, through A. D. Kelley, complained to the Corporation Commission of that State that the Southern Railway Company had issued a pass to the sheriff of Fauquier County, thereby discriminating against the general public in defiance of the Constitution and of the Virginia Code. Kelley also alleged that he had reason to believe that many, if not a majority of the sheriffs and other civil officers of the State, had been recipients of similar passes. The railroad company admitted that it had issued a pass to the sheriff, but alleged that it was issued in payment of the fees and charges of the sheriff for all services which he might be called upon to perform for the company during the year, or to which he might be entitled on account of any litigation in which the company was interested. The company also admitted having issued similar passes to other officials throughout the State. The Constitution of Virginia provides that no transportation or transmission company shall grant to any member of the General Assembly or to any state, county, district or municipal officer, except to members of the State Corporation Commission, any frank, free pass, free transportation, rebate or reduction in rates. It is further provided that, should any official accept such pass or rebate, he shall thereby forfeit his office and be subject to other penalties.

The Commission held that fines and penalties must be imposed upon the railroad company for its violation of the constitutional and statutory inhibition against the issuance of passes. That it is against public policy to permit public officers to recover compensation from third persons for duties rendered in pursuance of obligations laid upon them by law. That were such payments permitted, it would tend to encourage bribery and extortion, and that, therefore, any contract providing for the issuance of such passes or the giving of such rebates to officials in lieu of their fees or charges was void, on the ground that the consideration therefor was illegal. The Commission expressed the hope that the imposition of the fine imposed upon the Southern Railway Company would be ample notice to it and to all other transportation companies that the practices herein complained of would not be tolerated.

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"Listening In" a Nuisance

SEVERAL subscribers of the Nash Telephone Company complained to the Public Utilities Commission of Maine as to the character of the service rendered by said company. The Nash Company answered that the principal reason why its service was not up to the standard was that certain subscribers used their lines an unreasonable time in carrying on extended conversations which might properly be called "gossip," rather than a legitimate use of the line.

The Commission in disposing of the complaint points out that every user of a party line has equal rights, and that, therefore, no subscriber should make longer or more frequent use of the line than is absolutely necessary. The Commission says that the too frequent practice of many subscribers on party lines of "listening in" every time the bell rings has become a nuisance of no small proportion on many lines, causing annoyance and damage to innocent subscribers and unjustly placing the whole telephone system in disrepute. A more strict observance of the elemental rules of courtesy in this respect must be practiced by users of the lines before blame can attach to the Telephone Company for insufficient service. The very nature of the service intended to be rendered by a Telephone Company demands courtesies and reasonable use of every instrument on the line, and, while subscribers are insistent in demanding improved service, they should also make every effort to assist in obtaining such service and should studiously observe the reasonable rules of the company, since the best service can be had only by an intelligent effort on the part of the public to understand conditions and to meet them frankly and courteously.

The Prefix and Number Assigned to a Subscriber's Telephone Are No Part of the Contract for Service

THE Public Utilities Commission of Utah denied the application of the Citizens' Coal Company and other subscribers of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company who sought an order directing the Company to restore the respective telephone numbers and prefixes theretofore furnished to and used by them. The Commission pointed out that numbers are given subscribers largely in the interest of efficient operation and that for convenience switchboards are constructed to be operated with numbers and not with individual names. That, therefore, as new subscribers are added it is constantly necessary for the company to change positions on the switchboards, and it becomes a practical impossibility to preserve for subscribers a particular number. That, moreover, the prefix and number assigned to a subscriber's telephone are no part of his contract with the telephone company and may be changed by the company at any time as the exigencies of the business may require. The Commission held that, since the Company was required to give reasonable and efficient service, it should be allowed a reasonable latitude to adopt and enforce such rules as would permit it to render such expected and required service. That, therefore, since it appeared that the changes complained of were made for the purpose of bettering the service and in the interest of the general public, the complaint must be dismissed.

Rates Fixed by Municipality Not Binding on Commission

THE City of Fall River sought to set aside an order of the Public Service Commission of Massachusetts, authorizing the Bay State Street Railway Company to discontinue the sale of six tickets for 25 cents and to charge a straight 5-cent fare. The city alleged that the franchise granted by it to the Bay State Company's predecessor contained a condition requiring the sale of six tickets for 25 cents, and that a bond had been given to secure the fulfillment of said condition. The Public Service Commission which was one of defendants in the action demurred to the city's complaint, and the demurrer was sustained by the Superior Court, whereupon the city appealed to the Supreme Judicial Court.

In sustaining the demurrer and dismissing the city's complaint, the Supreme Judicial Court held that the fares of street railways were exclusively under the control of the Public Service Commission, and that the powers of said Commission were plenary, despite any conditions that may have been imposed in antecedent grants or franchises by selectmen or other municipal boards. The court points out that the question whether the company should be permitted to withdraw the commutation tickets called for the exercise of a sound discretion and judgment of the Commission on the evidence of the company's financial condition, and that it was only where the rulings or orders of the Commission were unlawful that the court could annul, modify, or amend them, and then, only to the extent of such unlawfulness.

Consumers Must Share War Burden With Public Utility

THE West Virginia Public Service Commission in approving the application for an increase in rates made by the Light, Fuel and Power Company of Sutton and the Gassoway Gas Company, which corporations were operated under the same management and control and practically under the same ownership, held that, in view of the abnormal war conditions prevailing, it would be unfair and inequitable to compel the companies to continue operations under their existing rates. The Commission states that the increase in the cost of labor and materials brought about by the war was a burden that should not be borne entirely by either the companies or their consumers, but should rather be divided between them. The town of Gassoway objected to any change in the rates of the Gassoway Company on the ground that its present rates were fixed as a condition of the franchise under which it was operating. The Commission pointed out that the rate fixed by the franchise would not produce a just and reasonable return upon the fair value of the company's property used in the public service and that, therefore, while the Commission would be slow to disturb contractual relations between a utility and a municipality, or between a utility and its customers, it would, nevertheless, not hesitate to do so where it appeared, as it did in this case, that the enforcement of such contractual relations would operate as an unjust discrimination or impose an undue burden upon either of the contracting parties.

Huns Seven Miles Away, Sentinel Whispered

Colonel Newly Arrived in France Finds Out Why

LONDON, Feb. 15.—An American colonel, newly arrived in France, on his first tour of inspection, approached a sentinel squatting behind a hedge, and started to question him.

The Yankee shot back a reply in a husky whisper. Immediately the colonel flattened out on the ground with more haste than dignity.

After exchanging a few breathless whispers with the sentinel, the colonel whispered:

"How far are the Huns from here?"

"About seven miles back," the sentinel whispered back.

"Then, why the — are you whispering?" the officer stormed.

"Been like this for weegs; godda heluva gold," replied the soldier, wiping his nose.

—*Evening Sun*, New York.

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Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Elna Beveridge, night senior operator, Jersey toll, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Mae V. Brennan, senior operator, Jersey toll, appointed supervisor.

Miss Marion G. Dunlea, senior operator, Bryant, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Fagan, senior operator, Intervale, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Kathryn Gallagher, evening senior operator, Jersey toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Josephine Gilmartin, senior operator, Bryant, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Halloran, supervisor, Rector, appointed senior supervisor.

Miss Bertha Lehnert, night supervisor, Beekman, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Alice L. McCabe, service observer, Bryant, appointed supervisor.

Miss Angela R. McCune, service observer, Farragut, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary Mulligan, senior operator, Morningside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Emily H. Ostman, supervisor, Madison Square, appointed senior supervisor.

Mrs. Mary Rogus, senior operator, Bryant, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary J. Savage, senior operator, Columbus, appointed supervisor.

Miss Lulu Scully, supervisor, Canal, appointed senior supervisor.

Miss Gertrude Sloan, senior operator, Cort, appointed supervisor.

Miss Frances M. Tighe, assistant chief operator, Cathedral, appointed chief operator.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Meta Armstrong, evening senior operator, Prospect, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Myra R. Browne, evening senior operator, Bay Ridge, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Martha E. Bruhns, evening senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Nellie M. Doolan, evening chief operator, Prospect, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Mary M. Duffy, senior operator, Prospect, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Frances Jordan, evening senior operator, Stagg, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Beatrice M. Kenney, evening senior operator, Richmond Hill, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Marion B. Ketcham, evening senior operator, Yaphank, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mary Larkin, evening senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Edith M. Marvin, evening senior operator, Flatbush, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Florence M. McGreal, night supervisor, Prospect, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Violet L. Miller, senior operator, Flatbush, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Anna V. Nelan, evening senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Regina V. O'Sullivan, evening senior operator, East New York, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mabel B. Wahler, night supervisor, Evergreen, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Gertrude Yedell, supervisor, Bedford, appointed senior supervisor.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

Miss Elizabeth Frisch, evening senior operator, Bergen, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mae Kane, senior operator, Paterson, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen Wadsworth, senior operator, Paterson, appointed evening supervisor.

Plant Department

William B. Weller, cable splicer, appointed cable splicers' foreman.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

The following operators have been sent to Washington:

Miss Elizabeth E. Mullins, Dobbs Ferry.
Miss Gertrude Sullivan, Greenwich, Conn.
Miss Florence Talbot, Greenwich, Conn.
Miss Ella V. Brown, Mount Kisco, N. Y.
Miss Florence Geritzen, New Rochelle.
Miss Loretta Poggie, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Miss Elizabeth Wiese, Ossining, N. Y.
Miss Harriet M. Hancock, Peekskill, N. Y.
Miss Frances M. Gilligan, Peekskill, N. Y.
Miss Anna E. Callahan, Portchester, N. Y.
Miss Katherine E. Kennedy, Portchester.
Miss Mae V. Tief, Portchester, N. Y.
Miss Florence File, White Plains, N. Y.
Miss Cora Moger, White Plains, N. Y.
Miss Nana C. Connolly, Yonkers, N. Y.
Miss Johanna G. Smith, Yonkers, N. Y.
Miss Anna C. Lefler, Portchester, N. Y.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary E. Babcock, evening supervisor, Schenectady, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Genevieve F. Martin, evening senior operator, Schenectady, appointed supervisor.

Miss Rose J. O'Brien, evening chief operator, Schenectady, appointed chief operator.

Milton D. Ketchum, engineering assistant, division superintendent of traffic's office, transferred to Kingston, N. Y., as acting assistant district traffic chief.

Francis J. Martley, clerk, division superintendent of traffic's office, appointed chief service inspector.

Stephen B. Mooers, acting assistant district traffic chief, Kingston, transferred to the division superintendent of traffic's office, Albany, as engineer.

Central Division

Traffic Department

Miss Ester Auert, operator, Whitesboro, N. Y., appointed chief operator, vice Mrs. Helen Clark, resigned.

Miss Harriet Lucas, evening senior toll operator, Ilion, N. Y., appointed chief operator.

Plant Department

G. E. Newman, appointed cashier, Syracuse, N. Y., vice Miss D. F. Greene, resigned.

Commercial Department

J. B. Wittan, appointed division commercial engineer, succeeding E. M. Gladden, appointed division commercial engineer Western Division.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Ethel M. Cafarelli, Buffalo toll, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Ellen Colter, Buffalo toll, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Eleanora Fornataro, Rochester toll, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Minnie Geary, supervisor, Buffalo toll, appointed evening chief operator, Buffalo-Abbott.

Miss Anna R. Hall, chief operator, Buffalo-Oxford, transferred to Buffalo-North.

Miss Elsie Halpin, Niagara Falls, appointed senior operator.

Miss Louise Hamp, Buffalo toll, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Mabel Hennessey, chief operator, Buffalo-Howard, transferred to Buffalo-Oxford.

Miss Marion B. Law, chief operator, Buffalo-Abbott, transferred to Buffalo-Howard.

Miss Ethel G. Murray, Jamestown, appointed senior operator.

Miss Isabelle Peoth, Buffalo-Abbott, appointed chief operator.

Miss Sadie C. Robinson, Buffalo-North, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Wilhelmina Schleweis, evening senior operator, Buffalo-North, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary E. Short, Rochester-Chase, appointed night chief operator.

First Aid Over the Telephone

A "Central" at Ogdensburg, New York, was instrumental in giving first aid by her quick wit and resourcefulness. A woman called, asking for a certain number, but before completing her sentence she abruptly ceased speaking, leaving the receiver off the hook. Quickly the operator realized that something was wrong from the peculiar action of the woman and from the strange sounds, as if of suffering, that she heard over the wire, and she acted under the supposition that a sudden sickness was the cause of the trouble. Without hesitation she called the next-door neighbor of the woman whom she believed was ill, and explained the unusual occurrence.

The neighbor, acting promptly on the advice of the operator, hurried to the house next door, where she found the woman unconscious by the telephone. The wires were then kept busy as the doctor and husband were summoned. With the quick help that the neighbor was able to bring the woman was soon made comfortable and recovered in a short time. Most of the credit, however, was given to the telephone girl, Miss Addie Lawrence, of the Mountain Home Telephone Company, who, by her sympathy, quick actions, and common sense, had brought the best aid possible in the shortest time for the sick woman.

This telephone girl illustrates again the old adage that "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin."

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NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, 15 DEY ST., NEW YORK

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F. H. BETHELL, First Vice-President
H. F. THURBER, Vice-President
FORD HUNTINGTON, Vice-President
WALTER BROWN, Secretary & Treasurer
J. L. SWAYZE, General Counsel
C. T. RUSSELL, General Solicitor
R. V. MARYE, General Attorney

J. A. STEWART, General Manager
J. S. WILEY, General Auditor
E. F. SHERWOOD, Chief Engineer
H. C. CARPENTER, Engineer
T. P. SYLVAN, Asst. to Vice-President
E. A. GURNEE, Asst. Treasurer
WALDRON HOPPINS, Asst. Secretary
J. S. KENNEDY, Asst. Secretary and Secretary Employees' Benefit Fund Committee.

COMMERCIAL DEPT.

J. S. McCULLOH
General Com'l Supt.

W. F. BAKER
Asst. to Gen'l Com'l Supt.

A. D. WELCH
General Com'l Engineer

W. F. CROWELL
Advertising Manager

J. LENIHAN
Manager Collection Bureau

Manhattan-Bronx & Westchester

J. R. POLLOCK
Division Com'l Manager
104 Broad Street

Long Island

H. W. DRAKE
Division Com'l Manager
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

New Jersey

H. G. KERR
Division Com'l Manager
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

J. A. JAMISON, Jr.
Division Gen'l Manager
158 State Street
Albany

Central

D. C. COX
Division Gen'l Manager
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

C. A. SPAULDING
Division Com'l Manager
44 Church Street
Buffalo

PLANT DEPT.

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General Supt. Plant

A. W. ALLEN
Supt. Buildings & Supplies

J. C. RENNARD
Real Estate Manager

W. T. GURNEE
Plant Accountant

Manhattan-Bronx & Westchester

BURCH FORAKER
Division Plant Supt.
24 Walker Street

Long Island

P. D. HONEYMAN
Division Plant Supt.
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

New Jersey

I. J. THORP
Division Plant Supt.
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

C. P. COOPER
Division Plant Supt.
42 Howard Street
Albany

Central

F. J. CHESTERMAN
Division Plant Supt.
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

P. O. JACOBS
Division Plant Supt.
44 Church Street
Buffalo

TRAFFIC DEPT.

J. H. GORDON, Jr.
General Supt. Traffic

R. H. BOGGS
Traffic Engineer

J. L. TURNER
Supervisor of Traffic

H. G. GREENE
Manager Public Telephones

A. D. SCOVEL
Mgr. Traf. Inspection, M.-B.

Manhattan-Bronx

H. J. SCHULTZ
Division Supt. Traffic
15 Dey Street

Westchester

W. B. MORELL
Division Supt. Traffic
40 South Fifth Ave.
Mt. Vernon

Long Island

G. L. YATES
Division Supt. Traffic
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

New Jersey

G. H. MERRILL
Division Supt. Traffic
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

E. G. ANDERSON
Division Supt. Traffic
158 State Street
Albany

Central

H. H. KENNEDY
Division Supt. Traffic
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

J. J. WELCH
Division Supt. Traffic
44 Church Street
Buffalo

ACCOUNTING DEPT.

P. O. COFFIN
Auditor

J. A. KENNEDY
Auditor of Disbursements

A. J. NORMAN
Auditor of Receipts

B. M. WILSON
Chief Traveling Auditor

Lower Manhattan

L. F. HALSTED
Division Auditor Receipts
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Upper Manhattan-Bronx

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Long Island

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New York

New Jersey

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Division Auditor Receipts
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

J. P. HILL
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Albany

Central

E. E. LINES
Division Auditor Receipts
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

H. W. GAUL
Division Auditor Receipts
44 Church Street
Buffalo

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The Spirit of War Service

Alone in the midst of war's desolation, the telephone lineman crawls to mend the broken wires.

On all sides the thunder of artillery; in the air bursting shrapnel.

He faces danger with that unconquerable spirit of war service which permits him to think only of maintaining the telephone connections.

The safety of the troops depends on these lines of communication, often used for the sentries' warnings, the carrying of official commands and the summoning of reinforcements.

In a dark hole hidden among sparse brushwood are the telephone operators, some of whom have been for months in their damp cave ceaselessly swept by shells.

And they are admirable, all these heroes of the Signal Corps, whether serving in darkness or in the all too bright light of day.

The spirit of war service, over here as well as over there, furnishes the nerves, the endurance, the morale—the stuff that wins war.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

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NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine, place a one-cent stamp on this notice, mail the magazine, and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers or sailors destined to proceed overseas. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW

Vol. 9. No. 5 May, 1918

OFF FOR FRANCE

Telephone operators both at home and behind the fighting lines in France are all *Volunteers For Victory*

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SECOND RED CROSS WAR FUND WEEK MAY 22—27

ALL the work of the Red Cross Nurse is not done on the battle-fields. Under her care are all upon whom the Boche has wreaked his cruelty. He is particularly fond of bombing hospitals, in one of which this two-day-old baby was wounded and mutilated. On its blanket the nurse has pinned the ribbon of the mutilated in the war; it is certainly the youngest of all. . . . . .

Letter sent from Dunkirk to "*Echo de Paris*" by its war correspondent, M. Eugene Tardieu. Drawing by Simont. — (Reproduced from "*L'Illustration*," Paris.)

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The Telephone Review
New York May 1918
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
15 Dey Street
Vol. IX New York No. 5
Published monthly by the
New York Telephone Company
U. N. Bethell, President
Walter Brown, Secretary-Treasurer

Two Ways of Helping Uncle Sam

THE personal influence of all employees of the Bell System, individually and collectively, can accomplish tremendous things for our country.

One of two things is certain; either you will not use it, and by doing nothing, really be helping the Kaiser when our country needs you, or you will try to find some way to use it for Uncle Sam.

Influence so slight as to seem worthless may be as the last straw that broke the camel's back when it comes to deciding the war. The combined influence, small and large, of all employees constitutes an aggregate strength that, if exerted, will go a long way in stamping out disloyalty and overcoming pro-German propaganda wherever it may be found, and in backing up our boys at the front.

We can also use our influence to secure for the Telephone Company all the capable operators and other employees that are needed to meet the demands created by the war.

Each of you has relatives, a circle of friends, and business associates, among whom a timely word well spoken may be the means of doing unto others what this is written to do unto you,—and that is, arouse an active and earnest effort to be straight American in thought, word, and deed, under all circumstances. This includes loyalty to the Telephone Company on the part of all its employees.

We who are in the Bell System are fortunate in being engaged in a business which is the most vital and important one in the whole country, because failure on our part would handicap and throw into confusion every activity in which others are engaged. In a large sense, we really are a part of all war activities. Upon us rests the responsibility of aiding the Government, the railroads, shipbuilders, factories, manufacturers of all kinds, and the public, in speeding up war preparations so as to get more men and supplies over to France where they are so badly needed, and in carrying on trade and commerce and patriotic enterprises at home; and our business is being conducted not only more efficiently and with less criticism than any other national industry, but is receiving the highest praise for the wonders it is performing in the face of enormous difficulties such as no other has to encounter. Each employee shares in the credit for what the Bell System is doing so ably.

The most important and patriotic thing any of us can do is to stay on our jobs, so that the telephone service upon which the country depends will not be crippled by the desertion of any one of us. Loyalty in doing our "biggest bit" for our country, and the permanent advantages for ourselves, are both combined in our continuing to perform the work for which we are best trained and qualified. The positions we occupy are our posts of duty.

Leaving our posts to enter positions which on the surface may seem more attractive would be to gain nothing either in patriotic service or permanent financial profit. The telephone business will not end with the war, and both the glory of serving where we are most needed now, and the reward of service in years to come, will be gained through our faithfulness in doing our part in keeping the wires open for all the other workers also engaged in winning the war.

Colonel Carty Is Awarded the Edison Medal

COLONEL J. J. CARTY, Chief Engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, will be this year's recipient of the Edison Medal, which is conferred annually by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers upon "a person high in attainments in electrical engineering, electrical science, or the electrical arts."

The award is made to Colonel Carty "for his work in the science and art of telephone engineering."

The presentation will take place on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Institute at the Engineering Societies' Building, 29 West 39th Street, New York, Friday evening, May 17, at half-past eight o'clock.

After a brief business meeting, Dr. A. E. Kennelly, chairman of the Edison Medal Committee 1917, will make an address. Dr. Michael I. Pupin will then speak on a subject near and dear to the hearts of all telephone people, "John J. Carty." This will be followed by the delivery of the medal by Mr. E. W. Rice, Jr., president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Colonel Carty will then make a speech in accepting this great honor, the most recent addition to the large number that have been conferred upon him.

IMPORTANT WAR INFORMATION BOOKLETS ISSUED BY THE THE U. S. GOVERNMENT

Your government desires that everybody be given an opportunity to learn all *facts* about the War. Every American should know *WHY* we entered this war. Every American should know *WHY* we must fight on until the high ideals of Americanism and Democracy are attained.

President Wilson created the Committee on Public Information to tell the people the TRUTH. As a part of its work this Committee has prepared a series of thirty-seven booklets, each dealing with a vital war problem. These booklets will be furnished free upon request. Fill in coupon below.

Booklet No. 5:

Conquest and Kulture. Contents: Hundreds of quotations from the writings of leading German statesmen, professors, and publicists, revealing the Prussian idea of world conquest. One section is devoted to Germany's designs upon the United States with special reference to the Monroe Doctrine. 160 pages with comprehensive map.

Booklet No. 6:

German War Practices. Prussianism in all its horror. Methods of the German Military Machine. Documentary proofs of German official brutalities upon civilians. Narrating instances of frightfulness taken directly from German sources.

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BOOKLET No. 115:

Why America Fights Germany. A statement why America entered the war. Deals with offences of Germany against America and against the world The case in a nutshell written in plain language.

The above mentioned are but three of a series of thirty-seven authentic war publications. Fill in coupon below and these three booklets will be sent you together with a complete catalogue from which you may select other booklets.

COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Secretary of State The Secretary of the Navy
The Secretary of War George Creel

8 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

FACTS ABOUT THE WAR COUPON

Fill in and mail, under first-class postage (3c), to

Department of Distribution,
Committee on Public Information,
8 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

.....(Date)

Please send me, free of any charge, the booklets which I have checked, to the address given below.

( ) *Conquest and Kultur*
( ) *German War Practices*
( ) *Why America Fights Germany*

My name is.....
Street address .....
City .....

THE TELEPHONE REVIEW
New York Telephone Company, May 1918

Mr. W. F. Baker Resigns

MR. W. F. BAKER has resigned his position as Assistant to the General Commercial Superintendent, to accept a position with the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

He entered the service of the New York Telephone Company in October, 1897, as an agent in the Contract Department. In 1902 he became a special agent of that department, and in April, 1904, was appointed Contract Agent of the Company. With the enlargement of the Company's territory in 1908 and the creation of the Commercial Department, Mr. Baker became Division Commercial Manager of the Manhattan-Bronx Division, and in 1910 was appointed Divisional Commercial Manager of the New Jersey Division, succeeding Mr. S. M. Greer. This was followed by his appointment in 1913 as Metropolitan Manager, having general supervision of the commercial work in the down-state divisions, which position he held until July, 1915, when he became assistant to the General Commercial Superintendent.

In leaving the Company to take up banking work, Mr. Baker carries with him the best wishes of his many friends in the organization with which he has been identified so long.

Arthur W. Lincoln, formerly Assistant Publicity Manager of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, has been appointed Publicity Manager, succeeding John E. Boisseau, who resigned to accept the vice-presidency of the National Union Bank of Baltimore.

T. T. Cook, formerly editor of *The Transmitter,* has been appointed publicity Manager of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, and J. O. Martin, formerly his assistant, succeeds him as editor.

A Plea for Greater Coöperation

By Mildred Lang, Operator, Mt. Kisco

WE have entered upon a second year of war, a year which will make rapid strides toward peace—honorable and universal. During an era of peace we find the need of coöperation, if any degree of success is to be had.

Now that we are actively engaged in war,—the greatest war that history chronicles (and it is hoped, the last great war)—what is to be our keynote of victory? Beyond a doubt the answer is coöperation,—coöperation at home and abroad. The time has come for men to lay aside their small wants and petty troubles. Not each man for himself, but all men for a common cause, must be the aim of our people. What has America stood for, and what shall we cause her to symbolize in the future? There is but one reply—pure democracy, and accruing from that, peace, mercy, prosperity, and contentment.

Let us practise coöperation and all things else will follow, as the night the day. Under wise leaders, let us follow, aiming to abolish dissension, and all other corrupting influences! How better can we do our bit than by aiding our country in giving ourselves wholly to the task of doing constructive work? Why philosophize about patriotism, when the crying need of the hour is accomplishment? Dream, theorize, philosophize—yes, indeed—but on an efficiency basis.

Now I would suggest that we remember that a slogan of our Company is coöperation, and that we practise it more completely. Think how much can be accomplished by this intricate network reaching all parts of the country,—a great, living, intelligent voice, ready at all times to serve the public.

Not enough has been, or ever could be, done in appreciation of so wonderful a work. Since it is our purpose, as employees, to aid in so enormous an enterprise, let us do our utmost to make it an overwhelming success. In so doing we are helping a wonderful nation to victory; we are placing the work of the telephone where it should be; we are lending a glory, a dignity to the work, which it so rightly deserves.

"Singing Carr"

IN the mountains of Kentucky, says the *Literary Digest,* there is a place called Hindman, and in Hindman shines every week *The Little Star,* edited and published at the modest price of seventy-five cents a year by Monroe Combs, owned and managed by John Caudill, and "dedicated to the interest of Knott County." We call attention to this quaint and interesting little sheet because in a recent issue we find a poem that any famous magazine might be glad to print. Its author, a critic and poet well known in New York, has come upon a curious custom among some religious Kentucky mountaineers—that of singing hymns on the telephone party lines. He has celebrated this custom in verse appropriately simple and colloquial, and just sufficiently dialectical to be realistic.

"SINGING CARR"

BY WILLIAM ASPENWALL BRADLEY

Now glory to the Lord of Hosts,
from Whom all glories are,
And glory to His tuneful saints,
that live on Singing Carr,
Where people say no sinful songs,
or ballets new and fine,
But spread the Gospel far and nigh,
by singing on the line.

At night when folks sit by the fire,
and pass the bottle round,
They're like to hear the little bell,
that makes a tinkling sound.
Then one starts up and claps his ear,
to hear who's calling "nine."
"It is the Saints o' Carr," he cries,
"a-singing on the line!"

"Come, folks, and hear the Saints o' Carr,
they're singing sweet and loud."
Then all put the flat bottle by,
and to the box close crowd,
So each can listen in his turn,
and slake his soul with wine
That flows from lips o' Saints o' Carr,
a-singing on the line.

They's no corn-licker half so good,
so sweet, so pure, so strong,
As music made by Saints o' Carr,
in some old Gospel song.
If you should hear the Methodists,
'twould seem a dismal whine,
When you had heard the Carr's Fork Saints
a-singin on the line.

But best of all, us folks round here,
we love to hear them sing
That song belongs at funerals,
"Been a long time traveling."
It makes us sort o' think o' death,
sends shivers down the spine,
To hear it sung by Saints o' Carr
upon the party line.

For each of us at last must die,
be buried underground.
I'm studying if, when safe above,
they'll come the tinkling sound,
Some night, o' that peart little bell.
'Pears like my soul will pine
To hear, in heaven, the Saints o' Carr,
a-singing on the line.

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Mr. Vail's Red Cross Message

FELLOWS AND ASSOCIATES IN THE BELL SERVICE:

YOU see service flags flying in front of the cottage and the mansion, the office building and the factory. The Bell System has one, of which we are proud.

On our service flag there are over seven thousand stars, and soon there will be eight thousand.

Do you realize what each of these stars indicates? Each star says that some one man has subordinated his position, his immediate opportunities, for the time being his prospects in life, and certainly the best years of his life; that each man has sacrificed the luxury and comfort of home and home surroundings to take up the burden of privation, self-denial, discomfort, misery, and danger, and the risk of life.

That man is doing a duty and making a sacrifice that belongs as much to you as to him. He is making this sacrifice that you may be secure in the enjoyment of your position, your opportunities, your prospects, and that you may continue to enjoy the comforts and luxuries of home surroundings. It is not merely a privilege, it is your duty, your obligation, to do something that will help to smooth out the conditions under which he is doing this service.

The Government can clothe him and supply him with material needs, so far as is possible under the conditions, can give him routine attention and care when sick and wounded, but the Government cannot give him those little delicate attentions which go so far to comfort one when suffering from deprivation, sickness, or disability. The Government cannot bring home and home comforts to him. For that, the Red Cross has been constituted as a foster-mother of every soldier. To do this work it needs not only thousands of brave and faithful men and women who at every sacrifice are devoting themselves to this work, but it means also money to pay the bills and supply the needs. If you should devote half of everything you have, you would not be making a sacrifice in any way comparable to the soldier's. In fact you are really not called on for any sacrifice,—possibly only a bit of self-denial in contributing to that foster-mother for the benefit of your brothers at the front, a bit of your earnings.

There are silver stars, there will be more, in the border of that service flag. You know what it means to family and friends to have a dear one cut off in the prime of life.

The ministrations of the Red Cross will lessen the number of silver stars, and will make the last days of those who must go happier and more comfortable.

You of the Bell System have responded wonderfully to the membership drive and have come to the aid of your brothers in service. It is not gratitude or sacrifice. We want you to share liberally as with a brother, and tie this great noble work closely to the Bell System.

Those who are responsible for the work of the Red Cross have repeatedly and voluntarily expressed their recognition and appreciation of the aid given and the work done for the Red Cross by the personnel, operative and executive, of the Bell System.

A new campaign is starting. I hope when it is over that we shall stand still higher in their appreciation, and, above all, higher in our own self-esteem, and feel that while we may not have done all we would, we have done all that we could.

Telegraph Battalion Starts Library

THE operating forces of the Rochester main central office have for some time enjoyed an informal arrangement for the exchange of books among themselves. In this way about twenty-five volumes, principally fiction, have covered the local circulation, and the question arose as to what disposition should be made of them.

It was suggested that they be sent to our telephone men who are now in the Signal Corps in France, and a letter was written by Mr. L. M. Lynch, District Traffic Chief, Rochester, embodying this suggestion. This letter was submitted through THE TELEPHONE REVIEW office to Major Shearer, who has replied that the books will be very acceptable, and accordingly they will be forwarded to him from Rochester for the library which, he writes, has already been started.

France, March 11, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

Your letter of February 4, which has just reached me, containing the copy of Mr. Lynch's letter to you, comes at a very appropriate time, as we have recently felt the lack of books and have started the nucleus of a small library.

So far, we have only been able to get the few books printed in English which could be found in the bookstores in the nearby French cities. I am sure that any books which are sent to us, as suggested by Mr. Lynch, will be very welcome.

It may seem a bit odd that we who are working nearly every minute of the day, should have time to read books, but in spite of the work, there are frequent occasions when the men would enjoy sitting down and losing themselves between the covers of a good old American novel. This will be particularly true in the long summer evenings which will be with us shortly.

I am sorry that I have not been able, personally, to send you accounts of our life over here, but judging from the copies of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW which have come through regularly, I think you have received all the news from the various men that could pass the censor.

I will be glad to have you express my appreciation to Mr. Lynch for this additional endeavor on the part of the Traffic Girls at home to add a little lightness to the life in France.

We have been so kindly remembered by our friends in the Telephone Company since we arrived in France, that there is not a single need which I could suggest that has not already been anticipated by those good friends.

Very sincerely,
H. H. SHEARER.
Major, 407th Telegraph Battalion,
National Army.

Poor John!

"Hello! Is this you, mother, dear?"

"Yes, Sue. What is it? Something awful must have happened for you to call me up at this"——

"It's not so awful. But John dear hasn't been feeling well and the doctor gave him pills to take every four hours. I've been sitting up to give them to him and now it's about time for his medicine, but John has fallen asleep. Should I wake him?"

"I wouldn't if I were you. What is he suffering from?"

"Insomnia."

Pittsburgh Telegraph-Chronicle.

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Get Busy! Get Busy! Get Busy!

There'll be plenty to sing of the rattle and ring
Of saber and scabbard and battle's grim hazard,
But here is a rune to fit any tune,
That should reach every ear, far off and near:
Get busy! Get busy! Get busy!

There'll be plenty of thrill in the trumpet's loud trill
For those who may come to the beat of the drum,
Who will rally to fight for freedom and right;
But work has a call, 'tis a tocsin for all:
Get busy! Get busy! Get busy!

Now's the time for a show at the shovel and hoe,
To fatten the field and brace up the yield
Till two blades appear where one did last year;
But it can not be done if you loaf in the sun:
Get busy! Get busy! Get busy!

More than powder or shot is the fruit of the lot
And if all do their share there'll be foodstuffs to spare,
With enough, if you please, for our friends overseas;
So all bear a hand and stir up the land:
Get busy! Get busy! Get busy!

—*From the book of poems entitled "In Praise of War," by* DON C. SEITZ.

War Gardens! It is not too late yet to start one. Since the Daylight Saving plan has gone into effect, gardening has become a pleasant possibility for the tired business man, who will find that being a patriot in this way is great work. We can not have too many war gardens, and we certainly can not have too much patriotism.

Telephone Gardeners' Club

THE telephone men at Little Falls, Utica, Auburn, Elmira, Binghamton, and Syracuse are already in the game.

If you are in doubt as to how to get busy, perhaps you will be interested to know that at Syracuse forty of them have rented a small farm of eight acres, the lease of which is signed, the money paid, and the big spring drive well under way. Ground has been plowed, and seed planted. They call themselves the Telephone Gardeners' Club, and bid fair, with their splendid organization, to attain the end which, in their "Rules and Regulations," is the purpose of the club,—"to assist in the Nation-wide Thrift Movement and encourage community farming."

The officers of the club, consisting of a Captain, as many Lieutenants as the Captain may select, not exceeding ten, and a Secretary-Treasurer, are required to issue instructions for the proper performance of the work, decide all matters of dispute, general policies and methods to be undertaken, et cetera.

A majority vote of the members elects the Captain and Secretary-Treasurer, who constitute the governing board, and the affairs of the organization as a whole are in their charge.

Provision is made for increasing the membership and arranging for transfers.

Last year, when similar organizations were formed, many started with a flourish, but lagged considerably during the summer months. To forestall such an occurrence, and to keep each member up to the mark, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Telephone Gardeners' Club of Syracuse is required to make weekly reports, indicating the number of hours worked by each member, the amount of cash credited to each member, and the average time worked by all members, which are posted at the Warren and James Exchange buildings and at the McBride Street storeroom.

Each member is required to file with the Secretary-Treasurer a weekly statement of the number of hours that he has worked during the preceding week (which will terminate on each Saturday night), not later than the following Tuesday, under penalty of 25 cents for each offense. Three consecutive failures to file such reports constitute a membership forfeiture, whereupon the Secretary-Treasurer refunds to the defaulting member 50 per cent. of the original deposit, and the remaining 50 per cent. is retained as a penalty and used towards the current expenses of the organization.

The club is financed and managed in a very interesting fashion. Each member makes an initial deposit of $10.00, to be used as a common fund, and all members must, as far as possible, contribute an equal amount of work or time in hours.

Then, at the end of the season, each member will receive an amount of produce equal in value to his initial deposit of $10.00, computed on the market price prevailing at that time, and the balance will be divided among the existing members of the club on the basis of the units of time worked by each member.

"A Constant Inspiration"

TO be able to give, it is said, is a luxury, for the pleasure experienced in giving is greater than the value of the gift. It is not often, however, that one can get as much pleasure out of one gift as the women in the traffic department of the four down-state divisions have had in the presentation of the stands of beautiful colors to the 404th and 407th Telegraph Battalions, composed of our own telephone boys.

The 407th have at last received their colors, and Major Shearer, who speaks for his battalion in accepting them, writes that his words are entirely inadequate to express the appreciation of the men in his command. His letter is a most beautiful tribute to the women who found so great a pleasure in giving. What finer tribute could he pay them than to say their names are "indelibly though invisibly woven into these colors," which will be "a constant inspiration" to them, as symbolizing the hearts of the donors? The men of the 407th Telegraph Battalion have read aright the message embodied in the flags,—a message telling them that every one of their fellow-workers is following their fortunes overseas with pride, and the fullest confidence in their ultimate victory. The letter follows:

France, March 31, 1918.

DEAR MR. SCHULTZ:

After many days of impatient waiting, the colors that you shipped us last December have arrived. I cabled you ten minutes after they came, but could not even start to tell you how we appreciate them in the restricted length of a cablegram.

The colors are beautiful, and I feel they are truly symbolic of the hearts of the donors. These colors will be a constant inspiration to every one of us. They forcefully bring home to us the knowledge that we have the support of the best women of our country in the work we have undertaken. I wish I could personally thank each one of these fine women for this generous gift she has sent us. I must rely upon you, Mr. Schultz, to forward my inadequate words of appreciation from every man in the battalion to every one of the women whose name is indelibly though invisibly woven into these colors. Their loyalty is of the highest.

I had planned to present the colors to the men today, Easter Sunday, in the name of the Operating Forces of the Company, but inclement weather and certain emergency work has forced a short postponement of the ceremony. I am sorry that you are not here to make this presentation yourself, as it would be most fitting in view of your interest in our behalf. Be assured, we appreciate our good fortune in the host of friends who have been so active in their expressions of interest and good wishes. Very sincerely, H. H. SHEARER.

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Baker Congratulates Telephone Operators

Secretary of War, While in France, Officially Commends Work of First Unit of American Girls at War Switchboards—Letters From Some of the First to Go Over

Third unit of telephone operators to go to France to serve with General Pershing behind the allied lines, and help carry on the business of war

CABLES have been received announcing the safe arrival of the operators in the Second Unit, who probably by this time have taken their places alongside of the members of Unit No. 1 in France.

Their arrival is almost coincident with the most interesting moment of the war for us, as our Americans are now actively participating and already have earned the title of "shock troops" from French officers.

Naturally, the girls who are to comprise the Third Unit, and who are ready to sail at any moment, are eager to hear of the fortunes of the first two.

There can be no doubt as to the success of the girls who are now on duty over there, for Secretary of War Baker has issued a congratulatory statement on the work of the Telephone Operators' Unit of the Signal Corps, which he inspected personally.

According to a communication from Paris, these thirty-three girls who are now at the switchboards in France, have lost no time in adapting themselves to new conditions and equipment. The familiar "Number please," or "Line's busy," is welcome music to the ears of American officers who have been struggling with the difficulties attendant upon telephoning in an unfamiliar tongue.

D. T. Gilloon, Co. E, 407th Battalion, in France, writes:

"I saw the first batch of operators to land in France, at General Headquarters yesterday, where they started their first day's work. They sure do look fine in their new uniforms, and naturally make you sit up and take notice."

MEMBERS OF THE THIRD UNIT OF TELEPHONE OPERATORS FOR FRANCE WHO WERE SECURED BY THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

(Left to right): Miss Marie B. Bélanger, Rochester; Miss Marie L. Beraud, West Hoboken; Miss Louisette Gavard, New York; Miss Margaret Hutchins, New York; Miss Suzanne Coheleach, New York; Miss Suzanne Beraud, West Hoboken; Miss Frances Des Jardins, Pembroke, Ontario.

A Few Words Along the Way

THE American telephone girls at their posts in France, some of them in army centers, others at General Pershing's headquarters in the field, at Paris, or along the lines of communication, have astonished the French operators by the rapidity with which they take down a connection. Frequently, when traffic is heavy, they put up one connection with the thumb and forefinger and at the same time take down another with the little finger of the left hand, to the admiration of the French girls.

The girls themselves, who have volunteered to serve for the period of the war, are beginning to write back of their trip and experiences. The following letters, received recently, tell their own story:

FROM MISS GRACE D. BANKER, FORMERLY AN INSTRUCTOR IN THE A. T. & T. CO., NEW YORK

At Sea, 1918.

DEAR MR. ESTABROOK:

As there seems to be an off chance that mail can reach you in the near future, I am taking this opportunity to write you a few lines. If it seems incoherent and business-like, it will be due to a spasm of "mal de mer," although for the most part we have been lucky along this line.

It was very nice of you to send those letters of introduction, and I thank you. All of the American Telephone and Telegraph and the New York Telephone people were very good to us while we were in New York, and I know that the girls all appreciate it.

On the whole, things seem to be going quite nicely. Group lines have practically disappeared, and we are no longer California, or Lowell operators, but Telephone Unit No. 1, U. S. S. C.

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We have been trying to have more or less regular instruction in French. I find that some of the girls who came in the New England contingent, either speak little French, or a Canadian French, which the real French girls have a little difficulty in understanding.

Everyone with whom we have come in contact has been most kind. We are very comfortably situated in every way, and the food is particularly good.

I have not gotten away from my clerical work, and I don't expect I will. There are regular reports to be filled out every day, but they are not one-hundredth as bad as the vouchers we worked on for Governor's Island.

The boat drills are about the most warlike thing we have met with. The whistles sound—out come the life preservers, and then away to our positions.

How is the second unit coming along? I shall be interested in hearing of its progress.

GRACE D. BANKER.
Telephone Operators' Unit No. 1,

The Silver Lining

ALL pleasure is relative, philosophers tell us. Without pain and inconveniences, we should not be able to really enjoy or appreciate the good things of life. People who have never been hungry have never experienced the pleasure of satisfying the appetite; those who have never been without the comforts of modern life can not realize that they are luxuries instead of necessities, and do not half enjoy them. The boys in the service are astonished to find that life goes on just as well, if not better, without all the sweets, spending of money, "comforts" of home, and all the other things that they considered part and parcel of their daily life, and inseparable from it.

And now comes a letter from one of our girls, Miss Ester Fresnel, of New York, a member of the Telephone Operators' Unit No. 1, now serving in France, who, after detailing some amusing experiences in England, reveals the fact that she, too, has arrived at the head of the class, having learned the lesson that we at home have not as yet even started to study. If you want to play in the war game you must, first of all, be a good sport, and take things as the gods provide them. Sometimes the work comes all in a lump, and at other times, the pleasure. The great thing is to be ready for either, or both.

That Miss Fresnel has reached this happy state cannot be disputed when one reads her letter to her mother, in which she says:

"You people take a lot of things as a matter of course. To really enjoy the little things in life, you ought to go without a few conveniences for a short while. Then, when you get them, you really are happy, and when you don't get them, you are happy, too, for you think how fortunate you were to have had them. See?"

Yes, we see, but we envy her her insight, just the same. Do you suppose that the war might do as much for us? If it did, it might prove to be the famous silver lining to the war cloud that now darkens our horizon.

Dearest Darlings:

By this time you will know that we have arrived safely, and now that we have arrived safely, and now that there is no more cause for worrying about my safety, don't you dare do anything of the kind! We arrived in England yesterday, so I haven't seen much of the country, but the little I have seen has impressed me greatly. The houses are all alike in the small towns and I don't see how in the world they ever get in the right ones. However, I have never seen anything so neat or prim. They remind me very much of doll houses.

Yesterday was a beautiful spring day, and after the ocean trip, it was wonderful to see the green fields, for they are very green already. We were very much surprised. The country is gorgeous,—everything is so calm and peaceful that one would never imagine that this great struggle was taking place in a country as quiet and orderly as this one.

We enjoyed the ride in the train at first because we could look out and see the land, but when it got dark (we rode for nine hours in those small compartments) it was quite tedious. We had received our rations early in the day, and some had been wiser than others—that is, they had not eaten everything at first. However, we in our compartment were very lucky. We were just five girls, and the only ones in the whole train to have a first-class carriage, so we had more room and were able to get snatches of sleep. The other sections were very much more crowded. However, today we are none the worse for it. That is because we finally got a bed to sleep in.

I felt very funny, because it was the first time in five or six days that I had removed my clothes to sleep.

This morning, I got up earlier than the others and thought it a fine opportunity to take a bath. You see, we never can tell when we will be able to have another, so we never let an opportunity go by. So, after having found the bathroom and asked the girl in there about it, I started to get ready. It seems here, though, that when one wishes to bathe, one must notify the whole hotel staff, for a woman came in and simply bowled me over by asking what arrangements I had made for taking a bath. I told her I hadn't made any as yet, but I was going to have my bath first, and then I would be perfectly willing to go through any ceremonies they saw fit, but not before I had performed by used-to-be morning ablutions.

The poor lady was quite stunned and asked me my room number and a few other questions, but I ignored her and proceeded with my occupation. I guess she didn't like my style or got frightened or something, for she vanished quite suddenly. Needless to say, I enjoyed that bath more than words can say.

You people take a lot of things as a matter of course. To really enjoy the little things in life, you ought to go without a few conveniences for a short while. Then when you get them, you really are happy and when you don't get them you are happy too, for you think how fortunate you were to have had them. See?

We are always on the *qui vive* and never know exactly what we are going to do in the next five minutes.

However, whatever takes place, you are in my mind and heart, first, last, and always.

TOOTSIE.

Ester Fresnel,
Telephone Operators' Unit No. 1.,
U. S. S. C., A. E. F.

The following letters from Miss Georgette Schaerr, of Omaha, Nebraska, and Miss Josephine Davis, of New Orleans, are addressed to Mrs. Whalen, the toll chief operator at Trenton, where they received part of their training:

Somewhere on the Atlantic.

DEAR MRS. WHALEN:

Please do not think badly of me for not having written to you but have been so very busy since I left you that most every minute of my days was taken up, and now that I have leisure time to write, I may not tell you anything very interesting because my letters are subject to censorship. First, I want to thank you once more for how nice you were to me on my short stay at the office at Trenton. I've never met anyone that made things as pleasant for me, and as long as I live I will remember Mrs. Whalen of Trenton, N. J.

So far our trip has been quite nice. The weather is quite favorable and few of the girls have been seasick yet. Do you have a new unit in training now? Our chief operator is just grand. She is a very clever woman; hope she stays with us "over there." Of course, none of us know any more about our work "over there" now than we did when we left Trenton. We come under the same set of rules as the soldiers and any breaking of rules makes us subject to court-martial.

Our white waists get awfully dirty. An obliging stewardess has offered to wash them for us. If you see any of the girls tell them to get an army sweater and military stock collars—it will save them lots of laundry and looks just as well, as we must always wear our uniforms buttoned around the neck.

We had to rush terribly to get our shopping done because our time was so limited in New York. All the girls, Miss Davis, Mrs. Whitney, Miss Gagnon and Miss Depries, are quite well, and ask to be remembered to you.

We take physical setting up exercises and are growing quite fit. There are four Canadian girls in our unit.

I'm getting very anxious to get to work, this lying around does not suit me at all—guess I have too much of the hustling spirit of the West in my veins.

We are traveling first class,—the only women on board, and are treated very nicely. Well, this will be all for to-day. Write me a big long letter soon.

GEORGETTE SCHAERR.
Telephone Operators' Unit,
U. S. S. C., A. E. F.

DEAR MRS. WHALEN:

Safely across. Delighted with everything, except that we are all craving for an American-cooked meal. The trip across the old country was lovely. To see rolling hills of green grass was quite a relief after the snow and frozen waters. Am thawing out now in the sun. Expect to leave for France shortly. Will write again.

JOSEPHINE DAVIS.
Telephone Operators' Unit,
U. S. S. C., A. E. F.

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More Letters from our Boys in France

A LETTER from France needs no introduction, for we at home seem to have an unquenchable thirst for news about the "doings" of our boys over here, there, and everywhere. Overshadowing everything we do is the thought of war, of how we can help to win it, to make our soldier and sailor boys more happy in doing their share. Sometimes our apparent inaction in the crisis that is now nearing its height makes us gloomy and irritable, but we can not feel that way for very long if we read between the lines of the letters from our boys, and feel their spirit of hope, confidence, determination, and cheerful optimism.

Such a letter is the following from Major Shearer in acknowledgment of the receipt of tobacco which is being forwarded regularly by Mr. Thurber to our Signal Corps boys in France:

H'dq'rs. 407th Tel. B'n., N. A.
A. P. O. 714, A. E. F.
Feb. 24, 1918

MR. H. F. THURBER,
15 Dey Street, New York City:

Dear Mr. Thurber.—The poor old war is blamed for everything, from the highcostofliving to the shortage in paper. The war is the champion goat. But even the evercursed goat has some redeeming points, and we over here have the evidence to prove it. The four shipments of tobacco that we have received to date would take the curse off of the worst war-goat that ever was. You would have to be over here to really understand what a boon this is to us. Letters can only tell half the story. When you see the boys working away in a cold, dripping rain, clothes often soaked through, it then brings home the value of the best comforter, Lady Nicotine.

Some of the shipments have been a long time on the way, but that can't be helped, as all freight is slow. Even our mail takes three to five weeks. Be that as it may, we are tickled to death to get the shipments just as they come, and will get it distributed to the men.

Things are getting lively up in the American sector, as our boys believe in keeping Fritz guessing all the time, and are willing to take punishment for the chance to give the boche some of the same. Usually there is a bit added for good measure. Bet ter to give than to receive. The big discussion is not when the war will end, but when will we get up front. That is the spirit of the American army. Now that the troubles of winter are almost over, every one looks for something doing on the front, and, of course, wants to be in it.

For any one who worries about the health of the boys, please tell them to forget it. The only trouble we have is in keeping them from bursting their coats and breeches. They outgrow their clothes at an astounding rate of speed.

Very truly,
H. H. SHEARER.

Officers Mail—O. K.
H. H. Shearer,
Major S. C., U. S. R.

One can not long be blue when he receives an invitation like this from a former member of the Manhattan-Bronx plant department.

I sincerely hope that the boys "over here" will have the pleasure of inviting the rest of the telephone family "over there" to a dinner to be given in Berlin, on December 25, 1918, in honor of the people who

"Did their bit, and did it well!"

Sergeant JOHN J. KEHOE,
U. S. P. O. 701,
A. E. F.

A little bit of news like this sent by H. B. Wright, formerly of the plant department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, makes one feel good, there is no use denying it:

"Chow" is as welcome a bit of the day's work as any that falls to the share of our boys in France. To feed them we must plant our war gardens, buy War Savings Stamps, and Liberty Bonds, too, and do all in our power to be true Americans

I have not met any of our telephone boys over here in the Signal Corps, but in traveling from one location to another I have seen some of their work—that is, telegraph poles, wired completely across the different parts of the country. Give them a chance, and they will have them running to Berlin!

H. B. WRIGHT,
Co. D, 11th Engineers,
In the Field, France.

And then, when John N. MacKnight, headquarters company, 165th U. S. Infantry, comes along and says: "It makes us thrill with pride to hear the Second Battalion spoken of as the best signal outfit over here, and when we count up the fellows here, we realize how hard the folks back on the job must keep plugging (pardon the pun—it was unintentional) to keep things going smoothly," we just have to believe that there are no boys like our own Americans.

"BATTLING BILLIE GRACE," OF THE LONG ISLAND DIVISION, PLANT DEPARTMENT

DEAR MOTHER:

Well, mother, I have just been reading the New York TELEPHONE REVIEW of January, and seeing a large article about Company D, while we are over here. I tell you, Ma, I was pleased to know that such good news went home, mentioning things I could not think of writing.

I suppose you laughed yourself sick reading it and seeing that they had my name in it.

And believe me, Ma, we are always in good humor, and have no complaints to make in the line of treatment.

I am now in the Y. M. C. A., and our star piano-player, Daniel Boyce, is playing an Indian war dance. The whole bunch is up in the air; can't hold them down.

Tonight is the last night for the Y. M. C. A. to stay with us, therefore we are going to have a good time.

Been boxing with the boys every night, and now I have the name of "Battling Billie Grace." I put two shiners on the hospital chap and in the latter part of the evening outboxed a boy from the Bronx who fought in amateur bouts, and now you can tell Pa to get ready for me when I return

We are in a place where it is inconvenient for us to take a bath. While on guard I took a bath in the barracks, and believe me, some cold. But I stuck it out and felt cleaner after it.

Have to wash our clothes in the open and in cold water. Kneel on our knees next to the French women while washing our clothes. We forget all about the cold, but never forget to chat.

Well, Ma, will close my letter, sending my best love to you and all. I remain,

Yours loving son,
WILLIAM L. GRACE,
Co. D, 407th Tel. Bn.,
A. E. F.

ON THE HIGH SEAS WITH CHARLES A. LINN, FORMERLY OF THE PLANT DEPARTMENT, MANHATTAN-BRONX DIVISION

With the American
Expeditionary Forces in
the European War Zone.

DEAR FRIENDS AND BELL EMPLOYEES:

I take great pleasure in sending a few lines through THE TELEPHONE REVIEW to those back home on the old job, giving them

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Reginald Harper, "a veteran" of three years, now an aviator in the Royal Flying Corps

The smile that won't come off; William O. Johnson, in charge of the powder magazine on U. S. S. Kentucky

(Center, square) Harry Strohmeyer and Corporal Le More, in France

W. L. Grace and E. Frank, two "huskies" from Queens District, who aim to run a telephone line to Berlin

Ralph H. Sittig, Battery D, 59th Artillery, on his way to make the Kaiser eat smoke

(Center, round) Charles Enea, U. S. Base Hospital, France

Frank A. Moller, 2nd Tel. Batt'n, S. C., coming out to take a look at the weather

If you are in doubt as to why our men in the army gain weight, look at this batch of bread and the proud baker of it, Frank Mullen

Ever since they were invented, guns and pistols have had a great fascination for little boys. These big telephone boys, as you see, have not outgrown the habit, and are all playing with their automatics in France

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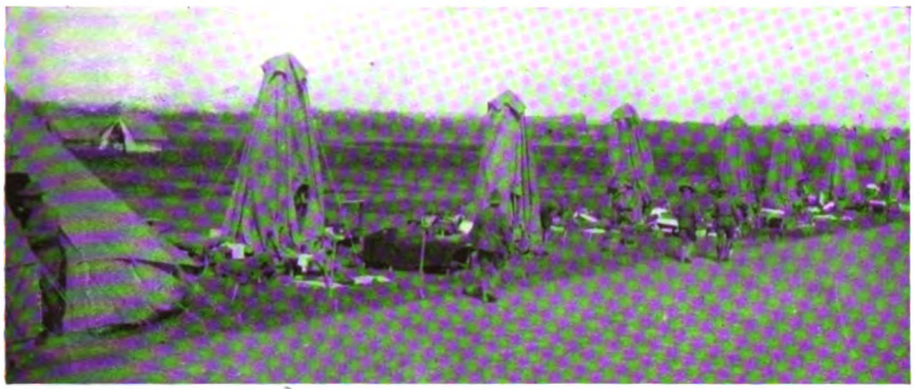


One of our Signal Corps camps in France. Tents must be furled, coats aired, clothing inspected, and all other duties that form the daily round of existence must be performed in the American camps, whether here or "over there," so that our boys will always be in good shape to whip the Kaiser

an idea of the life and experiences I am having while doing my bit on board one of Uncle Sam's warships, or, as we call them, "battle-wagons."

From reveille to taps we are always on the go, keeping things ship-shape, and we are always ready to meet "Fritz" at any time.

Whether it be convoy duty or just patrolling the seas, you can not imagine what a thrill goes through you when the outlook tells or signals that there is something ahead or something to the leeward. Acting in such stirring times will develop and make a man out of many a boy who left home never realizing what it was to be in the least peril.

But we are over here to win and to do our level best to keep "Old Glory" flying on the high seas.

I want to thank personally the editor of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW for his interest shown in sending us THE REVIEW, which is very highly appreciated, as it keeps us in close touch with our friends and fellow-workers of the New York Telephone Company.

CHARLES A. LINN,
Seaman, U. S. S. Florida.

Real Comrades

Somewhere in France.

DEAR SIR:

The French "Class of 1919" is being called for training, and they have been having a great time celebrating the occasion. All day yesterday, in various little towns hereabouts, they have been parading with all kinds of ribbons and decorations on their hats.

They were worthy rivals of our boys on Thanksgiving day. After dark last night our boys and some of those from the engineer detachment captured or requisitioned the snare drum and base drum from the French rookies. After adding a bugle and a dozen or so of our fellows who used their mouths for fifes, we had a possible drum, fife, and bugle corps.

Led by the French Class of 1919 and the French flag, we paraded up and down the street and serenaded at the houses of some of the recruits. They told us we were real comrades, and we all had a fine time. Our boys never miss the opportunity to enjoy themselves.

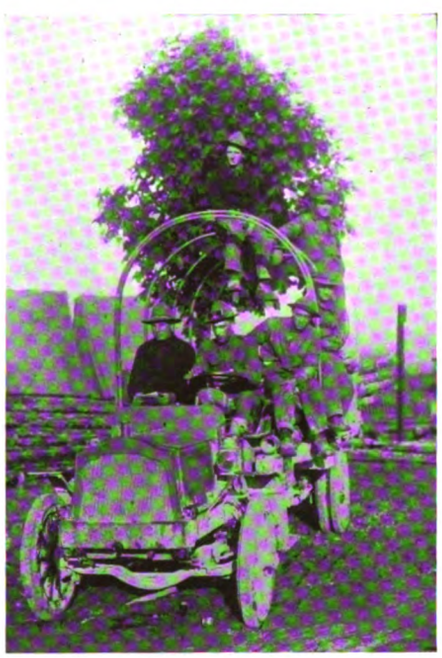
It is now time for chow (eats), and so I must close, or I will surely lose a good feed of roast beef and mashed potatoes, topped off by prunes and café au lait.

GEO. W. MULLER,
Co. E, 407th Tel. B'n.,
A. E. F.

[George W. Muller was a member of the plant department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, when he entered the service.]

On Detached Service in France

CORPORAL Charlie Le More, formerly of the plant department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, is having such a gay time in France that he is "swelling wisibly," and growing out of his clothes. This is another of Uncle Sam's problems—fortunately not a very serious one. Since Corporal Le More took up his quarters in the big town in France he thinks more of his appearance than heretofore, and informs us that he expects to use more shoe-polish in a week now than in months before. So is one affected by his surroundings!



Combining business with pleasure. Touring France in a special car is a favorite out-door sport of the Signal Corps men. Many of them have in this way seen the greater portion of France

DEAREST SIS:

This is only my second night in town, so you see I can't tell you much about the place, but from what I have seen I wouldn't mind if I stayed here until the war ended. In other words, I am on detached service at headquarters, back to the same old job I had in the United States, only not at night.

Gee, but it's great. I never thought that I would find such a place in France. We have all U. S. stuff over here, and you would think you were walking into some Fifth Avenue office-building instead of somewhere in France.

The sleeping quarters are fine; we sleep one above the other, only two high. I have an "Upper Pullman." Regulations are pretty strict, for you have to shave every day, turn your bed sack over every morning, air your blankets every week—a little more than we have been in the habit of doing. And eats! Oh, my! Our old mess-sergeant could make three pleasant meals out of one that we get here. Hamburger steak, French-fried spuds, biscuits, syrup and rice is just breakfast.

STYLE AND A LAMB'S TAIL

I can't begin to tell you all the news. I just drew a new coat because the old one did not fit me—too small. I suppose I will be changing the one I have now in a few months. As there are no more campaign hats issued, we are getting a style somewhat like the French—very nobby.

I went to church last Sunday, and in the afternoon we took a walk. We saw a very small lamb with a shawl on, and it drank milk out of a bottle. I found out why they say "Two shakes of a lamb's tail," for he wagged that tail of his so fast that you could not see it.

We have a large Y. M. C. A. here, and you can buy almost anything at a fairly reasonable price; cocoa and sandwiches are my special. We also have a large sales commissary, where we can also buy things at cost price.

CHARLIE LE MORE,
Co. E, 407th Tel. B'n.,
A. E. F.

Another Signal Corps camp scene in France. At first glance you might think that these American boys in France are getting ready to plant a war garden. They are—a garden of trenches, with shells for seeds, and they are the best "Kan the Kaiser" gardeners in the world, too

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Snapshots of Our Telephone Boys in Training "Over Here"

Buffalo Bill couldn't have done better for the camera man. Lieutenant R. C. Dawe, at Camp Hancock, taken at the noon mess halt of a twenty-two mile hike

"Attention!" Sergeant Gould, Sergeant Hoskins, Chief Master Electrician Kane, and Corporal Gassar, with their French instructor, Sergeant Kane, in the center

Arthur W. Deas, Color Sergeant in the cavalry before his company was reorganized into a Machine Gun Company

Another "tune" from the Christmas box. Elmer Johnson in the center with a guitar cleverly made out of the box sent by the Company, and Sergeant W. L. George and Corporal H. C. Vroman, playing a trio

Corporal Walter McKeon, at the extreme left, coiling telephone wires for service in the field. Upon the clever manipulation of the wire in the field depends much of the success of the Signal Corps

Corporal Theodore Brockmeier on his war horse.

Don't mistake Corporal Leonard McCann, of Camp Wadsworth, for a cowboy of the West

"Hello! Hit the bull's eye?" Corporal James A. Winton on the Rifle Range at Camp Wadsworth

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Life in a Training Camp "Over Here"

The Christmas Boxes Again

IF every Christmas box could tell its story, we should probably learn all sorts of things about life in the American camps in this country and in France, and on the Western Front. For instance, Thomas P. Carroll, who was a member of the plant department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, writes to tell us of how he had the pleasure of opening his under his gun, and of how he celebrated by firing a few shells.

Elmer Johnson, formerly of the commercial department, Long Island, Division, and now at Spartanburg, improvised a would-be guitar out of the box itself, and with it whiles away his evenings in company with more polished but, it is probable, less interesting instruments. So, you see, you never can tell what is going to happen when you start things going.

MY DEAR MR. "MAC.":

As you can see, I am playing an instrument I made out of one of the Christmas boxes, which is supposed to be a guitar. Although it doesn't look much like one, it answers the purpose fairly well. Even though the box is empty, it still lives up to its purpose in making us happy after a hard day.

Tomorrow we go to the trenches for three days. If I come out alive I will write and tell you all about them. We are going to have real gas attacks, and they are going to blow up different parts of our "No-man's-land," just to make it seem real. We look forward to having a hot time, and judging from the reports of the fellows who have already been in, we will.

Don't forget to send me a copy of the REVIEW when it comes out.

Give my sincerest regards to General Robb and all the rest.

ELMER JOHNSON,
Camp Wadsworth,
Spartanburg, S. C.

Getting Ready for the Big Day

THE watchword of to-day seems to be "speed up," whether we are talking of production of food, engines, aeroplanes, clothing, men, or guns. The men in the camps, too, are speeding up, and are working hard to get a chance to whack the Kaiser. When Captain Wild, a former member of the Manhattan-Bronx plant department, lets loose his famous Blue Ribbon Machine Gun Company, and the rest of the boys assimilate a library of useful knowledge, as Cadet R. J. Brown tells us, on aero-dynamics, gasoline motors, wireless telegraphy, gunnery, et cetera, that had originally been intended for a life-time's study, the Germans will not have very much fun.

Our Blue Ribbon Company

IN a recent machine gun contest at Camp McClellan, Anniston, Alabama, Co. D, 111th Machine Gun Battalion, won the blue ribbon. Naturally, its captain is delighted, as the contest was a stiff one, and he had worked with his men to attain a high standard. It is easy to see from his letter how he feels about the success of his company:

DEAR MR. HEEP:

Have been very busy going to school (Machine Gun) and also getting ready for a street inspection of my company by the 29th Division inspectors, so you can easily see I was going some.

But the result more than justified the work night and day. As you can see by the enclosed newspaper clipping, I beat everything in the division all hollow, and they didn't figure me in the race. But I have lots of good Irish blood in the company, and it sure did tell, and then again, I applied all of the Telephone Company's thoroughness and efficiency. It sure showed results.

I am as proud as can be, when you figure that I took this company when it was down and out and put it on the map, after lots of hard work.

I had as able assistants, two good Germans, Lieutenant O'Rourke and Lieutenant Fox; how could they beat us with names like that?

Give my regards to all the boys.

C. A. WILD.

Captain Co. D, 11th M. G. B'n.,
"Blue Ribbon Company."

P. S. Some swelled head!!!—C. A. W.

FROM R. J. BROWN, FORMERLY A MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR OF DISBURSEMENTS, MANHATTAN-BRONX DIVISION

Dear TELEPHONE REVIEW:

Some three months ago I received a box from you which I fear I have failed to acknowledge. But, TELEPHONE REVIEW, you know I am in the Army. So, of course, I have been too busy to write. Funny how a fellow gets in the habit of putting that at the head of every letter when he knows nobody believes it.

As I said, the box arrived three months ago. Then I was in Atlanta pursuing myself (if you can imagine that process) about the campus of Georgia School of Technology in a mad effort to assimilate in eight weeks a library of useful knowledge on aero-dynamics, gasoline motors, wireless telegraphy, gunnery, et cetera, that had originally been intended for a life-time's study. Two days after the box arrived, I finished at Atlanta. Great events do have a way of connecting themselves. So with the box, which was still unopened on account of Christmas not having come as yet, my trunk, and other articles of less value, I left there and came here.

The "here" I speak of is Park Field. Park Field is constantly spoken of as being in Memphis. But, TELEPHONE REVIEW, it is not in Memphis. It is miles away from Memphis. In fact, it's one hour and a half away by Ford, and only accessible on Saturday nights. There is one punishment around here that holds good whether one shoots a major or misplaces a cigarette. That is to take away the week-end Memphis privilege. No one can appreciate the frightfulness of it unless he knows both Memphis and Park Field.

But to get back to the box, which is what I started out to talk about. Two or three days, or maybe it was a week, before Christmas, on a day when I thought I was alone, I ripped off the paper, drew the nails from the wooden box and slowly started to examine the contents. Then I looked up. Very silently but quickly they had gathered—Faces—thousands of them—hungry, greedy, grinning faces of fellow would-be-aviators that must be fed. Everything went up in smoke and as the poets say, the fight was on. But, TELEPHONE REVIEW, the box was a great success Everyone said so and paid it a particularly high tribute by adding that it was the most practical, common-sense soldier's box ever put together.

I must say good-bye. I would like to tell you something about flying, but there is work to be done, and I must get to it. You will excuse the pencil. You see it is rather hard to write with a pen when the only fountain pen one owns has been borrowed by someone who has forgotten to return it.

R. J. BROWN.

Cadet, Park Field,
Memphis, Tennessee.

Intensive Training

JOHN McCOY, who was a member of the plant department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, tells of his military career:

DEAR SIR:

My military career so far has not been at all of an exciting nature when compared with those who have "gone over," but I have managed to cover quite a little of the country and improve my knowledge of geography.

I left New York December 26, with about ten others and after a four days' trip reached San Antonio, Texas. We expected to find Texas full of warm southern breezes, but instead found it nineteen degrees above and full of dust. The course in the Ground Officers' Training School was of six weeks' duration, but after we had completed two weeks, the authorities decided to close the school to ground officers and make it all for fliers. There are two large fields for flying purposes there, namely, Kelly Field No. 7 and Kelly Field No. 2. The former contained the Ground Officers' School.

The military activity is wonderful in the San Antonio section, there being over 100,000 troops quartered in the vicinity.

The flying cadets go up every day and maintain an average of thirty to forty machines in the air all day. The accidents are remarkably few and what have occurred were due to collisions in the air in nearly every case. Texas is ideal for flying purposes, as the ground is perfectly level and it seldom rains or is cloudy.

When the Ground School was closed, they divided the school into three sections; those for Engineering Officers were sent to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; those for Supply and Disbursing Officers to Georgia Institute of Technology, and those for Adjutants to Ohio State University.

If we had completed our course at San Antonio, all our squadron would now be officers. By sending us here we lost four

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Johnnie Green, of Jack Chandler's Hustlers, Buffalo, with Gip and Wigwag

Private Coyle, Hudson Division, in his first blue-jacket

L. S. Flynn, Central, H. J. Kurtzman and S. N. Harris, Western, with "stolen" mascot

Private D. A. Stone, Central, and his bride

The long and the short of it — L. L. Pierotti, Central, and Private Hunnewell

Sergeant W. E. Brown, Western, at ease

Private Jimmie L. Ahearn, Western. Not even an owl can pass him on guard

Privates G. R. White and H. L. Schaffer, Western, the way they like to go on a "hike"

Just posing! Some of the lads who would like to take a spin, but the Lieutenant says "hands off"

Private H. J. Coyle, Hudson, now driving the Major's car

Dispatch Rider Ray P. Schopf. He doesn't smile like this while driving "fifty" past military traffic police

Co. D man driving in the winning run—13-8

A happy crowd listening to George R. White, Western, playing "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here!"

Lined up for mess

Snaps of Company E, 403rd Telegraph Battalion, Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, from Sergeant E. M. Courtney

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Corporal "Dignity" (P. K.) McKinley, Central, Chief Hiker of Co. E

Private J. O'Driscoll thinking of somebody back in Watertown

Corporal M. A. Dwyer, Hudson, Company Clerk

Private J. T. Thornton, Hudson, "Happy Jack"

R. E. Sanford, Central Battalion Supply Sergeant

Mess Sergeant E. M. Courtney, Western

Private D. E. Banks, Western

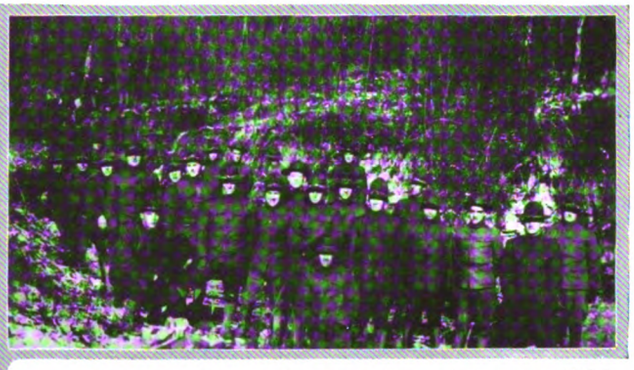
Privates White, Tierney, Finegan, Harris, Roth and Mullaney, all of Rochester

Lieutenant Creccy, of Co. E, 403rd Telegraph Battalion

Private G. Hoyle, Hudson, signaling for mess

Lost in the woods. Searching for the sun

After a two-hour hike



The boys waiting for Lieutenant Creccy to find the way out of the woods

Out at last! Note the happy faces

Company E, 403rd Telegraph Battalion, is composed of men from the Hudson, Central, and Western Divisions of the New York Telephone Company

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weeks and will not complete our course until March 16,—if lucky.

Richard Street, of the Advertising Department of the Telephone Company, was one of those in the last class to graduate at Kelly Field.

The work is most interesting, but keeps us busy without let-up, from 5:45 A. M. until 10 P. M.—intensive training, it is called. We are very comfortably situated in the College Armory overlooking the Campus.

I might add that an Adjutant is really a Secretary to the Commander of an organization. He is likened to the Superintendent of a business concern of which the Major would be President. The Major usually allows him to run things, if he finds he is capable, and an Adjutant is bound to be a busy man these days.

JOHN McCOY.

School of Military Aeronautics,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Life in the Trenches "Over Here"

JUDGING by Lieutenant G. C. Donnelly's letter from Spartanburg, the men in training there are having experiences that will make them able to adapt themselves to almost anything. He gives a very realistic account of a night in the Spartanburg trenches:

Every new experience, though tame in view of future possibilities, affords a topic of conversation. This time it is a three-day hitch in the trenches.

It was long before dawn on Sunday morning when we all tumbled out into the murky darkness. It was raining, having poured terribly hard all night. The roads were knee deep in soupy mud. In that silence which always prevails when men, much against their good wishes, are snatched from the only comfort (and little of that) which the Army affords, we splashed along, the rolling line of roll-laden men looking like a procession of the late lamented. I had myself hung with everything from a Victrola to an Abney clinometer.

At dawn we reached the entrance. I shall not mention how the guides who awaited us looked. It was not a sight to cheer. One grew suspicious. However, my platoon, the "Fighting Third," told off to the south sector, stepped down into the sewers, and the march began.

If I have not mentioned it, I call attention that our trick was the premier one of our young existence. That we soon observed. The rolls were wide, the trenches narrow. If the footing was good we splashed successfully on; if not, one would careen on one slope, careen to the other, and eventually get hung up in such a way as to not only block progress but require assistance. For two "peoples" (as the Frenchmen say) to pass, it was impossible.

STREETS WITHOUT SIDEWALKS

Our route followed Wall Street, Broadway, Claremont Avenue and 116th Street. You will note the mockery of their metropolitan designations. One gun covered the left flank; a second on 125th Street and near General Shayler Avenue worked in the first line; the third, about 500 meters north, protected the center. Headquarters, my 'umble 'ome, was on 116th near Claremont. It was just another dugout, damp, dark, and gloomy.

By 9:05 we were all settled, our guns, real in theory only, poking their imaginary faces across the unclaimed stretch in front. The dugouts, or emplacements in which they stood, were just about large enough for four men. We had six, or, in one case, seven. The extras hung on the wall. Yet withal, we quickly acclimated ourselves to the new conditions.

GAS!

In our dirty hovels, as in those across the sea, there hung over our heads the fear of gas. As we went in, each man received a box respirator which he carried on his chest in the "alert" position. He kept it there until he left. At first it seemed eternally in the way; later, quite a part of ourselves and our equipment. It is not particularly pleasant to sleep with, but when a fellow retains everything to his belt and gun when he retires (if he can) a little 12" x 12" x 4" box is very little additional burden.

In order to give the alarm, each dug-out has posted near it a sentry, also an old dish pan or an iron bar and a beater. Along comes the gas, perhaps thrown by an inspector from on top in a bomb or perchance liberated before a desirable wind; the one first getting it dives into his mask, yells "gas," and starts to beat the alarm. In a jiffy the whole trench area is in full concert. Like grim ogres they clamber out of the dug-outs. Once on, a mask can not be removed except by order of an officer, so there they stand wondering what it is all about and waiting to get rid of the satanic contraption. As is to be expected, one is always caught at the least desirable moment. He may be asleep, he may be in the "library" or even shaving. They have hearts of stone. Once I caught a whiff of some tear gas, but not enough to bother. It is a rotten weapon. Germany used it first, but she is paying dearly for her precedent. The Allies in that respect have gained the superiority.

"UTILITARIANS ALL"

At first the irregular maze of similar-looking ditches are as difficult to know as the streets of Brooklyn. Soon they become very simple. I admit, however, I frequently made many a circle to end up at the very spot from which I started. At night it was particularly interesting to associate or try to do so, a man to his stride. Quietly standing in a dark corner of a traverse, one would hear gradually approaching the heavy slush, slush of a pair of feet. He would picture the man. He seldom guessed right. Then, too, at night, when going along, one would burst into a sector totally void of human life, yet noises loud enough to awaken the dead crept out from niche and cranny. Some slept on firing steps, others on the berm in front of the parapet or parados. They are utilitarians all.

In spite of practically no sleep, without even changing a shoelace, we awoke at stand-to on Wednesday morning to look for our relief. It came at 7:30 A. M. Clean as could be (we shaved once daily) my lads filed out to the open land. Tired? They could have slept on a griddle. Yet they never complained. No one was hurt,—nobody sick. That's a hardy, husky crew. It was a great experience, yet best of all were the luxuries to which we returned. My tent seemed a golden castle. I went to my good old "Pears."

G. C. DONNELLY,
Lieutenant, Co. D, 106th M. G. B'n.,
Spartanburg, S. C.

Before his enlistment Lieutenant Donnelly was in the traffic department, Hudson Division.

Camp Dix Speaks

C. T. ARCHER and J. Wolthers, formerly members of the directory department, and of the plant department, New Jersey, respectively, tell us about life in Camp Dix:

DEAR MR. ELLIS:

The Paterson Commercial Office sent me a Smileage Book yesterday, which will be valuable, as we have a theatre in the camp conducted by Marc Klaw for the Government It was very good of them indeed, and it certainly was a surprise to me

Each company conducts a canteen where we can buy fruits, candy, coffee, stationery, soap, towels, and all sorts of things We have good beds,—two blankets and a quilt, so sleep well. All windows are open ten minutes after we retire and closed half an hour before we get up, by the night orderly.

I have no kick about the Army and my spirit is good, for I try to put the commercial and social world out of my mind and think that I am living in the one great world. This may seem strange, but I am not sitting on a fence Either have my heart here or there, is what I say.

The Army is certainly the Melting Pot of good fellowship. To see the boys share the goodies they receive from home with each other, is the only way to appreciate the true spirit of bigness. How they will help a fellow who is sick, or cover up his mistakes, is great. Another scene is when the mail arrives. Why, bees around a hive are tame compared with the boys. "Bill" is nearly as pleased as "Jack" is when he can bring a letter up to "Jack." It is this coöperative spirit that is drilled in the boys every day that will carry them through. We all learn to work together and have confidence in the fellow next to us.

C. T. ARCHER,
Co. G, 311th Infantry,
Camp Dix, New Jersey.

DEAR SIR:

I have been too busy while here at Camp Dix to do much corresponding, and THE TELEPHONE REVIEW which I received some time ago was a real friend, much like an old pal. It has been read by all the boys in the company. (The Mess Sergeant is reading it at present.)

Camp life is great and it has been continual school since I arrived here last September. I was first placed in the depot brigade where I remained a month or so. I was then transferred to the Telegraph or Wire Company of the 303rd Field Signal Battalion, of which I still am a member. During February and part of March, three other members of Company B and myself attended the Liaison School and were taught the French way of doing things by a Frenchman direct from the front. The course included line construction and ways and means of communication, of which the telephone plays so great a part It was a very interesting course, and some of the electrical stunts would be of great interest to the boys at home, but I am obliged to keep them to myself until the end of the war.

We expect to leave camp soon, but have nothing but rumors (of which there are always plenty in the Army), as regards our destination.

Thanks to the training I received from the Telephone Company, and personal interest in the work, I have just received my third promotion. I think I have told all I know of mutual interest, and will conclude with best regards to all the boys and especially to my old associates from the Jersey City district.

J. WOLTHERS.

Co. B, 303rd Field Signal Battalion,
Camp Dix, New Jersey.

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Wire Chief's Centralized Testing Bureau

By A. L. Du Bois, Supervising Wire Chief

Southern Testing Bureau Centralized Installation Desk, Locating Bureau, Contract Order Writing Force, and Cable Record Force, occupying 8th floor of 24 Walker Street. This room is one city block long

IN January, 1912, the first attempt was made to centralize wire chief's testing equipment in New York, when the testing equipment in the John Central Office was discontinued and arrangements made to do the testing for the John and Beekman Central Office Districts at the Beekman Wire Chief's desk, both of these Central Offices being in the same building. This method of handling the testing proved to be entirely feasible, and not only was it possible to handle the work more satisfactorily from one point, but it could be handled more economically.

The Problem of Centralization

IN order to determine if this plan would work satisfactorily under other conditions, it was extended to four more double offices where it proved to be equally advantageous.

The possibility of combining the testing and clerical work of a number of Central Offices had been suggested, but there remained a number of problems to be solved before this could be done satisfactorily. The beginning of 1913, however, found this suggestion taking definite shape, as it was pointed out that if savings could be made by combining the work of two offices, greater savings could be made by combining the work of several offices, many duplications could be eliminated, greater team work would be possible, and cumulative small savings would result in the reduction of the force handling the work.

It had always been the opinion that in order to obtain the greatest efficiency in handling this class of work, the test desk should be located near the main distributing frame. The development of the loud speaking receiver, however, provided a ready means of communication between the Tester and the Terminal Rooms, which enables the Tester at a distant point to handle his work as rapidly as though he were in the Terminal Room.

The development of the transfer test line was another big step towards centralization, as it provides a practical means of caring for permanent signals and permits the Installers and Repairmen to call the particular Tester required.

One of the essential requirements of a Centralized Testing Bureau is a flexible testing equipment which will permit specialization and at the same time provide for the greatest amount of team work. The type "B" test desk met these requirements, and as a four-position desk of this type had been installed in the Murray Hill Central Office, it was decided to try out centralization further by combining Greeley, Bryant, and Murray Hill at Murray Hill. This combination represented approximately 22,000 lines and 52,000 stations and was completed in August, 1915. The trial proved all of the claims made for centralization, and as the work progressed, new methods were developed which greatly increased the efficiency of the scheme.

GENERAL VIEW OF TESTING BUREAU SHOWING RELATIVE POSITIONS OF REPAIR CLERKS, TESTERS, TROUBLE CLERKS, AND DISPATCHERS

The Repair Clerks in the foreground are receiving statements from subscribers and entering the trouble reported on subscriber line cards which they obtain from the card file shown. The cards are then passed to the Testers shown in the background to the right, and after lines are tested, to the Dispatchers standing in front of the map. After the troubles are posted on the map, the cards are filed in the file at the Trouble Clerk's desk until trouble is cleared

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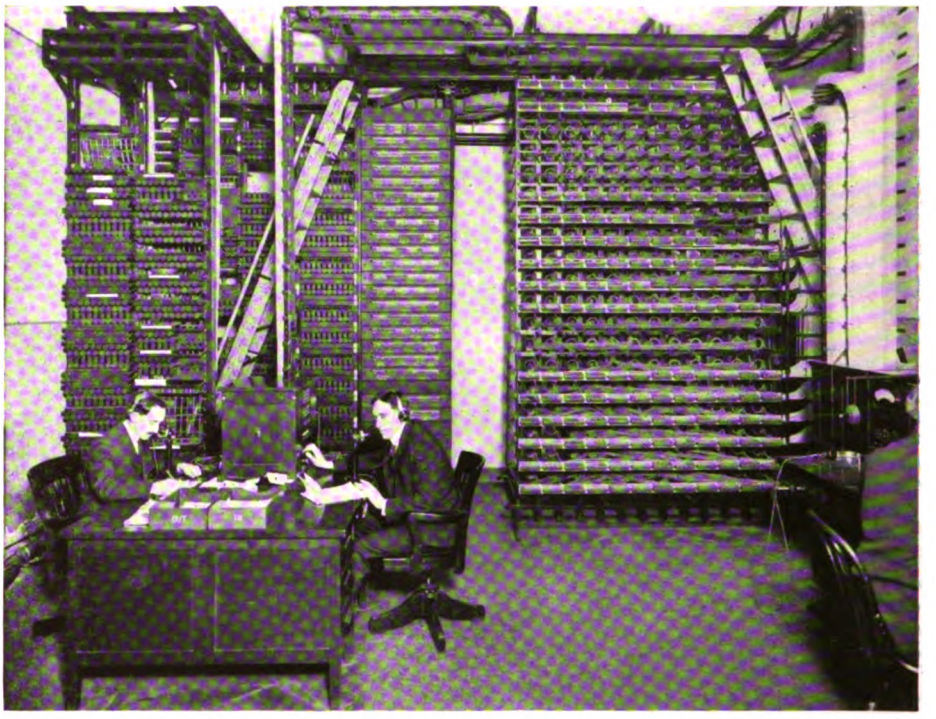
85,000 Lines and 168,000 Stations Cared for by Central Testing Bureau

THE next step in the development was taken when a six-position type "B" test desk was installed in the Columbus Building. The Murray Hill, Greeley, and Bryant work was transferred to this equipment in August, 1914. The four-position test desk was then moved from Murray Hill to Columbus, and the Columbus, Circle, Riverside, and Schuyler Central Offices were added to the combination which then consisted of 48,000 lines and 105,000 stations. Vanderbilt, Plaza, Lenox, and Rhinelander were later added to the combination, so that the Central Testing Bureau now cares for eleven Central Office Districts with approximately 85,000 lines and 168,000 stations.

As soon as the feasibility of a large Central Testing Bureau was established, steps were taken to engineer equipment large enough to care for all central offices south of Murray Hill.

The experience gained at the Columbus Central Testing Bureau was used to good advantage in connection with the design of the equipment and circuits, and it was possible for the Engineering Department to make many improvements which greatly facilitate the handling of the work. It was decided to locate the Southern Testing Bureau at 24 Walker Street, as this building is in approximately the geographical center of the district to be served. The Centralized Installation Desk, Central Locating Bureau, and Cable Record and Contract Order Writing Forces are located on the eighth floor of this building, which makes the location still more attractive for the Testing Bureau on account of the possibility of eliminating duplications.



WIRE CHIEF'S DESK, RELAY RACK, FUSE PANEL, AND DISTRIBUTING FRAME

Subway cables extend from this distributing frame to all of the Central Offices from Madison Square to the Battery and carry all of the test and talking lines from the Test Bureau to the Central Offices. All of the relay equipment used in connection with the Test Bureau is mounted on the relay racks. The Wire Chief's Desk is so arranged that all of the Testers and Clerks may be supervised from this point, and lamp signals indicate when all calls are received and answered

Equipment for New Test System

THE equipment which was manufactured by the Western Electric Company, consisting of eighteen Test Desk positions, twelve Repair Clerk positions, and seven card files, was delivered during August, 1917, but owing to pressure of other work the installation was delayed until October, when it was decided to have the Installation Force of the New York Telephone Company proceed with the installation, and active work was started October 22, 1917. In addition to the installation of the Test Desk and Repair Clerk equipment, it was necessary to design, construct, and install a four-position Dispatchers' Desk and ten Trouble Clerks' positions, in order to provide for handling trouble by the "dispatcher method," which had been developed subsequent to the engineering of the Test Desk equipment; also a two-position Contract Order Clerks' Desk.

18-POSITION TEST DESK

Arranged for testing all trouble on subscriber lines and trunks in the portion of the City served by the Southern Testing Bureau. From this point the nature of the trouble and the location can be determined and the necessary information is placed on the subscriber line card so that the Dispatcher can send the proper Repairman to the points where the trouble exists

Maximum Efficiency

THE Test Desk consists of eighteen one-position sections of No. 12 Test Desk, each section having a capacity of twenty "A" Board Test Lines, twenty "B" Board Transfer Test Lines, twenty one-way M. D. F. Test Lines, ten two-way M. D. F. Test Lines, ten Private Line Test Panel Test Lines, twenty Loud Speaking Circuits, twenty Wire Chiefs' Private Line Circuits, and twenty-three Talking Circuits for exchange trunk lines, tie lines, et cetera. Each position is equipped with a special volt milliammeter having 100,000-ohm, 20,000-ohm, and 1,000-ohm voltmeter windings and a milliammeter winding.

The test circuit combinations are each equipped with an additional key which, when operated, lights a disconnect signal on the test line in the distant office, so that it is unnecessary for the Tester to order his test line down. Each testing position is also provided with an extra cord and plug in order that Repairmen calling on transfer test lines may be transferred to the Trouble Clerks, if the trouble they are on tests O. K. The apparatus in each position is cabled direct to the distributing frame rather than to terminals in the rear of the position, so that all cross-connections are made at the dis-

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tributing frame. This arrangement provides for the maximum efficiency in grouping test lines and talking circuits with the minimum amount of wiring. Thirty-six call circuit keys are installed in the keyboard of each position and are so arranged that the Tester can communicate with any other Tester, Repair Clerk, Trouble Clerk, Order Clerk, or File Clerk. The test circuits provided for each Central Office from the Test Desk are:

8 Transfer Test Lines to "B" Board
2 Test Lines to "A" Board
8 1-way Test Lines to the Main Distributing Frame
2 2-way Test Lines to the Main Distributing Frame
2 2-way Test Lines to the Private Line Test Panel

REPAIR AND INFORMATION CLERKS
Seven card files and six Repair Clerks' desks are arranged in a hollow square with the Information Clerks in the centre. These files accommodate the subscriber line cards for the 20 Central Offices handled by the Southern Testing Bureau, and Repair Clerks' desks provide a place where complaints from all subscribers may be received. Lines extend from these Repair Desks to each Central Office in the Southern District

Facilities for Teamwork

THESE circuits are so arranged that they have approximately the same resistance, in order that the testing conditions may be practically the same to all offices. In addition to these circuits, order wires to the "A" and "B" Boards, loud speaker circuits, and extension lines for Insideman's Stations are also provided. These circuits are bridged and multiplied in such a manner as to provide facilities for the maximum amount of team work.

The Test Desk is so arranged that ten positions are provided for subscriber line testing, three for miscellaneous testing, one for toll testing, and four for installation testing.

The Repair Clerks' equipment consists of six two-position Repair Clerks' Desks and seven card file units; five of the desk sections are equipped with twenty talking lines terminating on keys and lamps flush with the top of the desk; the remaining section is provided with an apparatus box in which, in addition to the regular equipment of lamps and keys, are mounted lamps and jacks to which are bridged the lines terminating on the other positions. This desk is used as a light load position and for monitoring. Each position is also equipped with ten calling circuit keys so wired that the Repair Clerks can communicate with the Dispatcher, Trouble Clerks, and Testers.

Card File System

EACH of the card file units has a capacity for 26,000 cards in the top file and 15,000 cards in the drawers underneath. The bottom of the file is made of large mesh wire screen which allows the dirt and dust to fall through on to a dust tray which can easily be removed for cleaning. The desks and files are arranged in a hollow square, one desk section being placed between each two card files. Talking lines extend from the outgoing trunk multiple in each Central Office in the district to the Repair Clerks' Desks and terminate on positions adjacent to the card file of the particular office. Tie lines from the commercial offices also terminate on these positions and are used in connection with Service Restoration Orders and requests for information.

Equipment of Trouble Clerks Makes for Team Work

THE Trouble Clerks' equipment consists of five two-position sections, each section having a capacity of eighteen exchange lines and two Tranfer Test Lines from the testing positions, terminating on lamps and keys mounted flush with the top of the desk. Ten calling circuit keys and four Dispatcher's keys are also provided. The calling circuit keys are wired so that the Trouble Clerks can communicate with the Repair Clerks and Subscriber Line Testers. The Dispatcher keys are so wired that the Trouble Clerks can communicate with any one of the four Dispatchers. Talking lines extend from the "B" multiple in each Central Office in the District to the Trouble Clerks' Desk and terminate on lamps and keys on the position assigned to handle the work of the particular office, being bridged to adjacent positions to provide for team work.

A card file is mounted flush with the top of the desk between each two sections and a position clock is mounted between each two positions.

An Extraordinary Map

THE Dispatchers' Desk is arranged for four Dispatchers, each Dispatcher being provided with one exchange line, two private lines to the Repair Supervisor's Force, and ten calling circuit keys, so wired that the Dispatcher can communicate with the Repair Clerks or Subscriber Line Testers. Mounted on this desk is a map of the Southern District, ten feet long and four feet wide, which is used to show the locations of each trouble

CHIEF CLERK AND CONTRACT ORDER CLERK
The Chief Clerk is provided with telephone equipment which enables him to supervise the work of all the Clerical Force by listening in on their positions. The Contract Order Clerks have private lines extending to each one of the Traffic Clerks and Information Bureaus in the Southern District. As fast as Contract Orders are completed by the Installation Force, copies of the completed orders are delivered to the men at this desk who notify the Traffic Department in the offices concerned, to place the lines in service and release the G. R. copies. The clerical work in connection with the Wire Chief's subscriber line cards is then completed and the orders filed

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and each Repairman. The map is painted on compo board which is backed up with ⅞-inch white pine. It was found that four feet was the maximum width that could be used for the map, as anything in excess of this would either bring the bottom of the map too close to the floor, or the top beyond the easy reach of the Dispatcher. It was necessary to make a distorted map in order to meet all conditions, and as a basis a map having a scale of 600 feet to the inch was used. This map, however, was five feet wide and was not long enough to permit four Dispatchers to work at the same time.

The first step was to double the length of the map by using a scale of 300 feet to the inch for all north and south dimensions. Fourth Avenue was used as the center line and it was found that the east and west dimensions of the blocks in the Chelsea and Orchard Districts could be reduced enough to keep within the four feet width. The section south of Chambers Street presented the greatest difficulties as, owing to the congested business conditions, a large number of troubles might occur at one time in a block.

Records were, therefore, kept, and troubles were plotted on temporary maps until it was possible to determine the dimensions necessary to care for the trouble in the most congested blocks. These blocks were then drawn in and the south end of the district distorted accordingly.

In order to reduce the eye strain of the Dispatchers, the body of the map was painted light green, the backing a light olive green, and black was used for all street lines, names, and numbers. Other colors required were made to blend with the body and the backing. Elevated roads, subways, and the principal crosstown car lines are shown in distinctive colors. Passepartout tape was used for exchange district boundaries in order that they might be changed without injuring the map.

The Order Clerks' equipment consists of a double sided desk with the telephone equipment mounted in the center, flush with the top of the desk. This equipment consists of twenty private lines to the Traffic and Information Clerks in the District; four exchange lines, and two strips of ten calling-circuit keys, so wired that the Order Clerks can communicate with the Repair Clerks or the Installation Test Positions.

The Wire Chief's private desk is a double-sided desk with an apparatus box mounted in the center. The Wire Chief's side of the desk is provided with keys and lamps for talking lines and jacks for monitoring. The other side has facilities for monitoring transfer test lines, loud speakers, exchange lines, and all operating positions.

The Chief Clerk's desk has key and lamp equipment for exchange lines and facilities for monitoring other clerical lines and operating positions.

Scope of Southern Testing Bureau

THE first portion of the equipment was placed in service when the work of the Franklin, Worth, Barclay, Canal, and Whitehall Central Office Districts was transferred to the Southern Testing Bureau on January 19, 1918. This combination represents approximately 20,000 lines and 32,000 stations. The work of changing routines to meet the new conditions, coaching men, and transferring the remaining offices, continued until March 2, when Madison Square was taken over.

The Southern Testing Bureau now handles the work of twenty Central Office Districts:

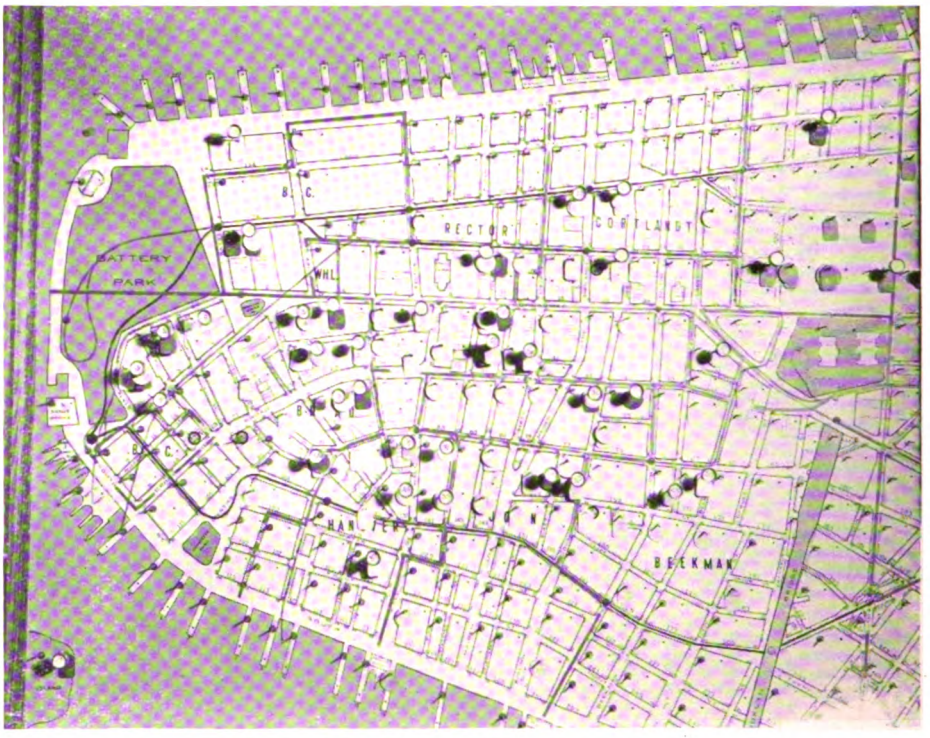
Broad	Franklin
Bowling Green	Canal
Whitehall	Spring
Rector	Orchard
Hanover	Forsyth
Beekman	Chelsea
John	Farragut
Barclay	Gramercy
Cortlandt	Stuyvesant
Worth	Madison Square

Jersey Toll Board

This combination represents approximately 132,000 lines and 221,000 stations.

Subscriber Line Trouble

WHEN a subscriber wishes to report trouble, the "A" Operator connects him to one of the lines terminating in the outgoing trunk multiple and extending to the Repair Clerks' Desk. Upon receipt of the complaint, the Repair Clerk removes the line card from the file, notes the trouble, and places the card in the trouble box which is divided in three parts,—one for trouble to be tested, one for trouble not requiring test, and one for broken mouthpieces.



SECTION OF DISPATCHERS' MAP. TAGS INDICATE LOCATION OF TROUBLE, AND NUMBERED MARKERS LOCATION OF REPAIRMEN

This is not a war map, but a telephone trouble map, and the photograph was taken in order to show the detail of the tags and markers. Each Repairman has a number, and his exact location is shown by the position of his marker on the map. Each trouble is represented by a tag, and the Dispatcher moves the Men from one point to another as the requirements are indicated. This method reduces to a minimum the lost time in traveling, and the map indicates at all times the trouble conditions existing

The cards are removed and distributed by the File Boy,—those requiring test to the proper test position, those not requiring test to the Dispatcher, and the others to Clerks who mail new mouthpieces to the subscribers. As soon as the lines are tested, the cards are delivered to the Dispatcher.

Upon receipt of the cards, the Dispatcher posts each trouble on the map by means of a small tag on which is written the subscriber's line number. The tag is hung on a pin which is permanently placed in the block in which the subscriber's station is located. Tags of different shapes and colors are used,—round tags for troubles re-

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ported in the forenoon and rectangular tags for troubles reported in the afternoon. Red tags indicate lines out of service; yellow tags troubles that affect the service; pink tags long distance loop troubles; and white tags trouble not affecting service. Troubles on Government lines, Fire Department lines, and Police lines are indicated by special marks on the tags.

All tags remaining on the map after 6:00 p. m. are stamped with a small star to indicate that they have been carried over night. As soon as troubles are posted, the cards are passed to the Trouble Clerks who file them in the trouble file in numerical order by central offices.

Repairmen "Call for Trouble"

THE Repairmen calling for trouble, ask for the Trouble Clerk and are connected to lines extending direct from each Central Office to the Trouble Clerks' Desk. When the Trouble Clerk answers, the Repairman gives his name, number, and the address he is calling from. The Trouble Clerk immediately passes the information to the Dispatcher who gives him the line numbers of the troubles he is to give out, at the same time removing the tags from the permanent pins and attaching them to the map by means of a removable pin having the Repairman's number on it. The tags are attached to the map at the point the Repairman will call from when he clears his last trouble. The Trouble Clerk gives the Repairman the troubles as directed, places the Repairman's initials on the cards, and replaces the cards.

After clearing the troubles given him, the Repairman calls the Trouble Clerk and makes a report of the trouble found. The Trouble Clerk removes the cards from the file, makes the necessary entries, and notifies the Dispatcher, who immediately removes the tags from the map and assigns more troubles to the Repairman. After completing the entries the Trouble Clerk passes the cards to the Tabulating Clerk, who, after making the necessary records, returns the cards to the File Clerk, who files them.

If, when working on trouble, the Repairman requires a test, he asks the Operator for the "Repairman's Test." The "A" Operator passes the call over the order wire to the Trouble Operator at the "B" Board, who connects one of the Transfer Lines to the line the Repairman is calling on. This connects the Repairman direct to the Tester who tests the trouble in the district in which the Repairman is working. If, after getting the test, the Repairman wishes to make a report, the Tester connects him to the Trouble Clerk over a tandem transfer line.

TROUBLE CLERKS AND DISPATCHERS

The Dispatchers post troubles on this map by means of small tags. Repairmen are indicated by movable markers. The Repairmen's calls are indicated by the lighting of lamps on the Trouble Clerk's desk shown in the foreground, and may be answered by a clerk on either side of the desk. When a Repairman calls, the Trouble Clerk notifies the Dispatcher, who instructs him regarding the trouble to give out. The Clerk then removes the cards from the file and reads the necessary information to the Repairman. The cards are then returned to the trouble file and held until the trouble is cleared

The Work of the Insideman

CENTRAL Office subscriber line trouble is handled by the Tester who gives the trouble to the Insideman over the extension line to the Central Office involved. The Insideman, after clearing the trouble, reports to the Tester over the extension line. The card then passes to the Tabulator and from there to file.

Trunk and position trouble is reported direct to the Insideman by the Traffic Department. The Insideman clears all trouble in the office and makes a record of same on his daily report. Trouble outside the office is reported to the Testing Bureau.

It has been possible to eliminate the Wire Chiefs' trunk card record, consisting of 30,000 trunk cards, by utilizing the Trunk Record Clerk's record. A circuit has been established from the test positions to the Trunk Record Clerk and the record of any trunk can be obtained without delay, a scheme adopted by the Bureau.

Contract Order Work

A NUMBER of savings have been made in handling contract order work. The "G. R." copies of all orders affecting the listing are forwarded to the local Wire Chief, who, after completing the central office work, delivers the orders to the local Traffic Clerk. The "W. W." copies of orders of this class are not written. "W. W." copies of orders not affecting the listing, but which require central office work, are forwarded to the local Wire Chief, who, after completing his work, files the orders. The "G. R." copies of these orders, and all other orders which do not require central office work are retained by the Order Clerk and released by him to the accounting center when completed. When an order is completed by the Installation Force, the completed "E. W." copy is delivered to the Order Clerk of the Testing Bureau and, if the listing is involved, he calls the local Traffic Clerk and authorizes her to release the "G. R." copy.

On all other orders it is only necessary to complete the record on the subscriber line cards, most of this work being done between 5:00 p. m. and midnight, in order that the subscriber line cards may be kept in file during the day time. The Order Clerk, when writing an order for a connection, also writes the subscriber line card, which is immediately placed in the regular file. This card does not show the completion date nor the conductors until the line is placed in service.

Supervision

THE Wire Chief of the Testing Bureau is responsible for the supervision of the Testing Bureau Force, for following up all subscriber line trouble conditions, and for advising local Wire Chiefs of excessive or preventable Central Office trouble.

The local Wire Chief is responsible for supervision of Central Office Force, maintenance of Central Office equipment, installation of new trunks, routine tests and inspections, Central Office transfers, et cetera.

A great amount of credit is due to R. S. Jewett, Supervising Wire Chief of Central Manhattan, whose pioneer work in connection with the Central Testing Bureau paved the way for the Southern Testing Bureau.

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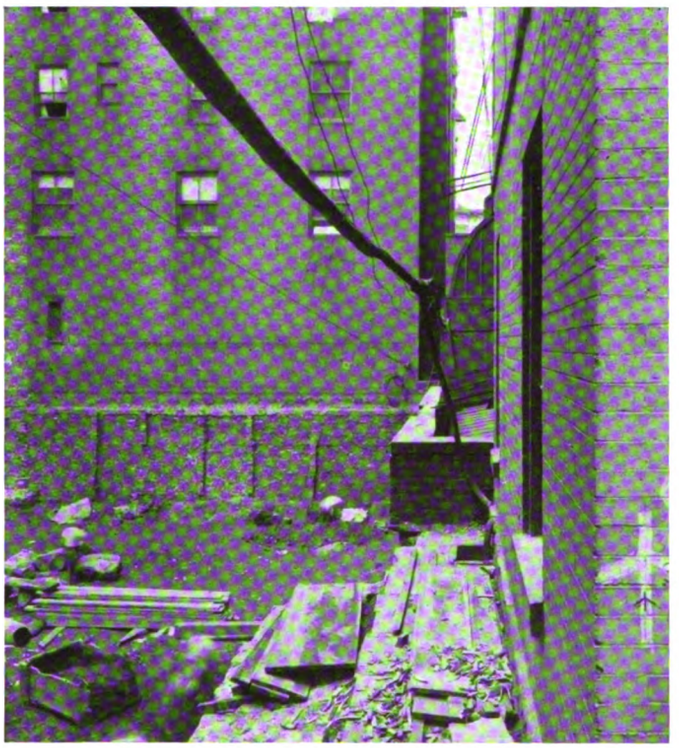

Only By the Most Constant Vigilance Can Telephone Service Be Maintained Under Such Conditions

How Building Operations Affect the Telephone Plant

By H. Forger, General Emergency Foreman, Manhattan and Bronx

IN New York City there occur probably more construction changes in existing buildings than anywhere else in the world—except, perhaps, in France at the present time. Old buildings are constantly being razed to make room for new ones; others are remodelled, or have extensions added. The Telephone Plant is generally involved in the reconstruction of these buildings, and by coöperation with construction engineers, careful supervision of the work, and progressive methods, the Company is able to cope with every new situation that arises and to turn to the best advantage the necessary changes in the telephone system.

Cable Readjustment

THE building activities vary considerably from year to year. In 1917 there were 560 cases of cable readjustment during building operations, while as many as 1,000 cases have been cared for in a year.

The reports of building operations reach the Company from several sources. The Division Plant Engineer's office receives official reports of all permits granted by the city for the erection of new buildings, and for the alterations or demolition of old ones. Besides, all outside plant men are trained to observe conditions of the plant in their districts, and they often report changes not previously cited. Sometimes the information that the telephone plant requires readjustment is not received until the contractors are on the job, and then very prompt action is necessary to save it from being damaged.

With each change, the telephone plant, consisting of cable, terminals, and ringruns, attached to the building, has to be shifted. When walls or fences, to which cables are fastened, are removed, our men endeavor to relocate the plant in a safe place until building work is completed or until new cable work, which may have become necessary, has been finished.

Maintaining the Service

CABLES must be maintained during building operations, and have to be periodically inspected as the building work progresses. While extensions are added to buildings, and where cables are run on the walls, or between the angle irons of fire escapes or under stairways, the demolition of that part of the building and the removing of the cable have to be done simultaneously to avoid cutting of the cables. The telephone men must also take charge of the work at the right time in order not to delay the builder.

When buildings, through which a cable enters the block, are being torn down or materially altered, and it is not possible to secure a new entrance, or when the new entrance is not completed, it is quite often necessary to have the cable watched at all times to prevent it from being damaged.

The time required for completion of the work varies to a great extent. Sometimes the work is finished in a few months, whereas on very large building operations, cables have been hung up for two years. Two hundred or more cases at one time are often cared for, and in order to properly supervise them, a card is made out by the District Foreman and filed according to streets. On his travels through the district the Foreman consults this file and, after making an inspection, notes the progress of the work and the date when it should be revisited.

Large cables and cables of the old type are quite difficult to handle. Great care must be taken to prevent injury to the sheathing and to the taps while they are being placed in temporary positions, as well as when they are re-located. There is no hard and fast rule that can be laid down in regard to the handling of the cables, as each case is different. The men who tackle the job have the word "Service" in mind and do their work that the service may be maintained, notwithstanding the conditions.

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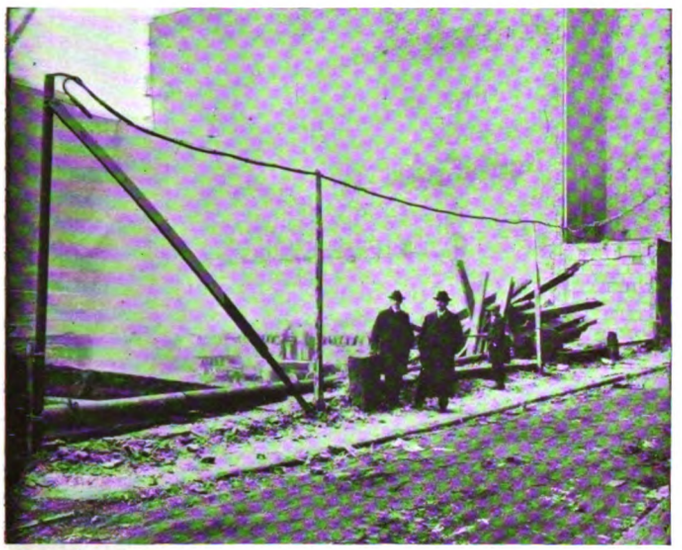
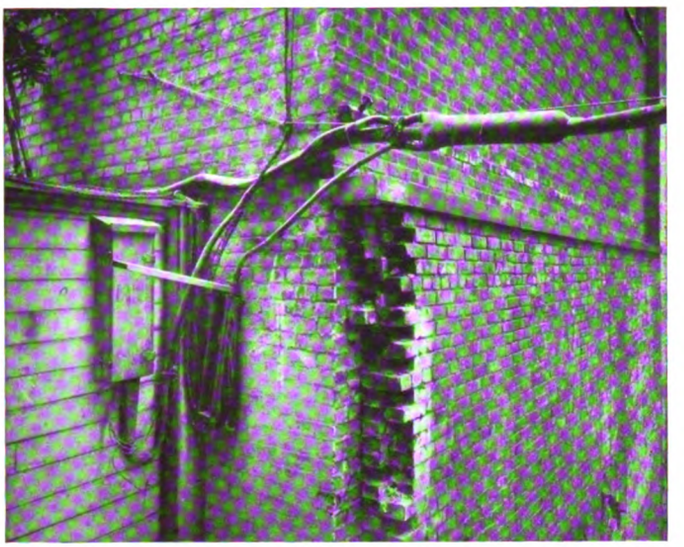
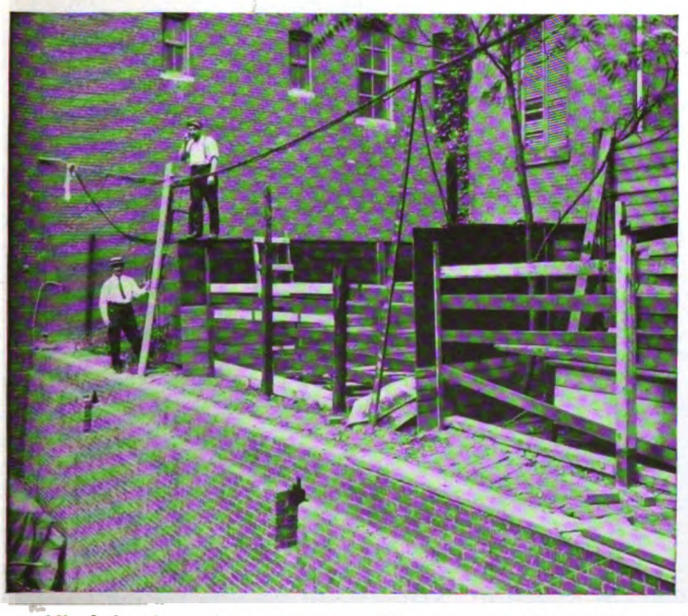


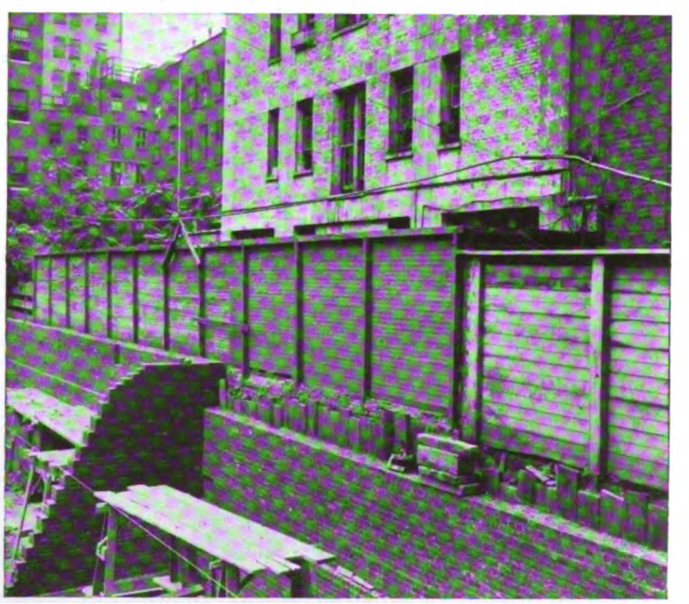
An aerial run to stand-pipe leading to subway



Twisted pairs and cables were never meant to look like this

Telephone cables attached to adjacent walls while excavations are in progress





All of the above pictures represent different stages of temporary expedients which the Telephone Company must adopt, regardless of trouble and expense, to give its subscribers service while New York is continually being made over

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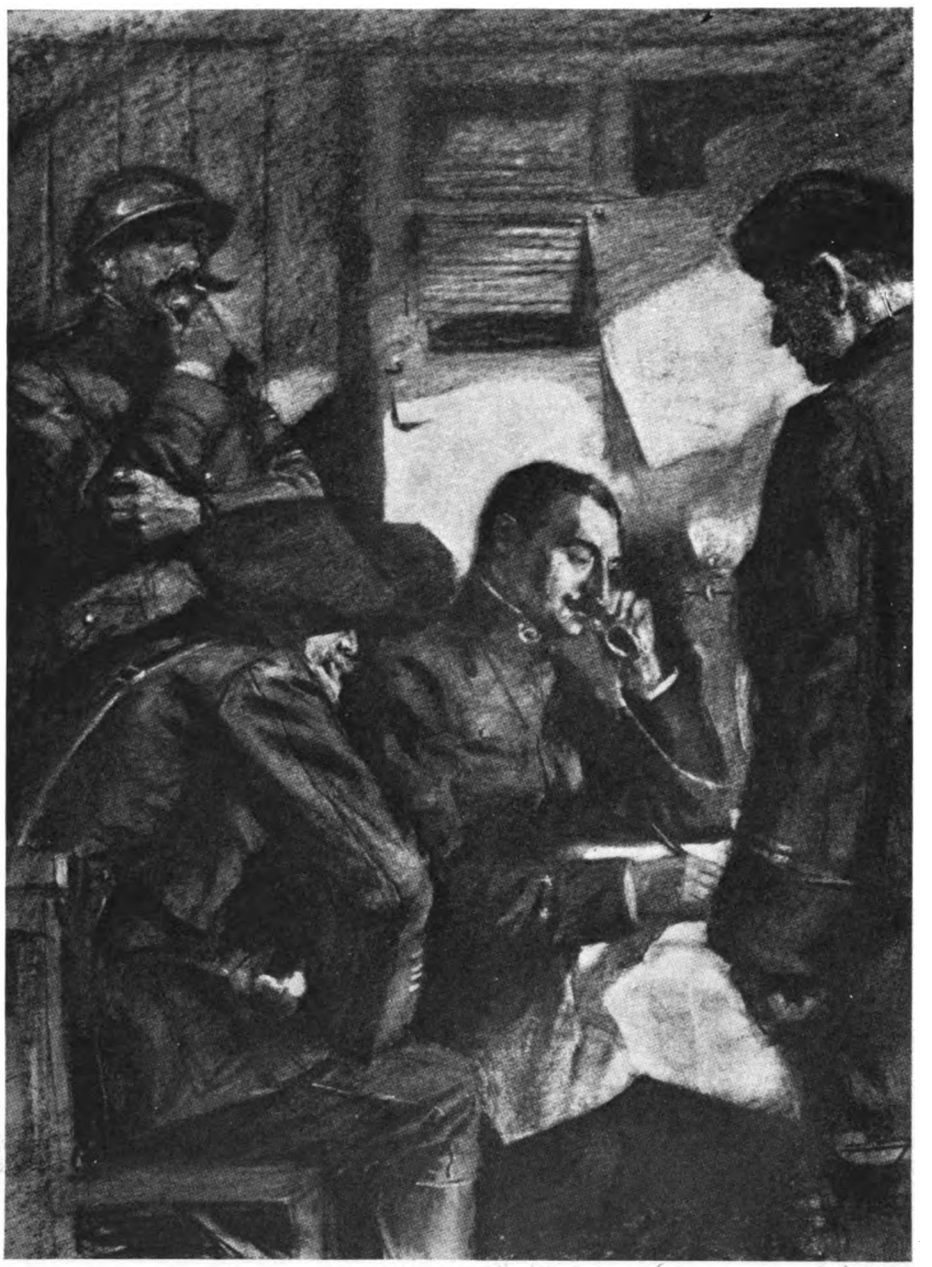
Pro-Americanism

"Need of Pro-American Propaganda."—*News Item*

IN the "good old days" that we all love to talk about so much, do you remember that figure so familiar to us all, the Bully? Do you recall with what disgust and fear he was looked upon by all the smaller boys—how he interfered in their play, in his domineering fashion, and spoiled their fun, holding his supremacy only by right of his confidence in his big fist, and his feeling that he was "It"? And do you recall how one day, when he went just a little too far, one of those boys was aroused to a pitch where he sprang up, clinched his fists, and pitted his grit and righteous wrath against the physical prowess of the Bully? And the fight that followed? And the sequel, with friend Bully dazed and shocked to find that his big fist had failed him—that he was not the fighter that he had thought he was, but was beaten? Yes, he was beaten, and by something that he was incapable of understanding—the idea of Fair Play! His confidence in his fist gone, he was cowed, and unable to fight any longer.

"Comparisons are odious," we are told, but one cannot help feeling that our friend Bully is still with us in that product of "Kultur," the so-called German Superman, relying on his power as an efficient fighting machine to conquer the world. He has the disease of the Bully in an aggravated form, for he goes further. In his great conceit, he feels that his ideals are the biggest attainable, and that they should be disseminated throughout the entire world. Nations should adopt them. And why not? Germany has the mailed fist ready, and would be only too glad to use it in order to compel acquiescence. Like the Bully, the Superman is filled with the lust of conquest, and like the Bully, he carries it just a little too far. There comes a day when nations whose very names stand for fair play and freedom rise in indignation to protect the world from his tyranny. The Superman will find his machine inefficient and his fighting spirit will be broken!



GENERAL BRISSAUD-DESMAILLETS, IN COMMAND OF A DIVISION OF CHASSEURS, DICTATING ORDERS OVER THE TELEPHONE AT HIS HEADQUARTERS

(Drawn from life by L. Jonas—Reproduced from *L'Illustration*, Paris)

That "the old order changeth, yielding to the new," was never better demonstrated than in the present war. Formerly, a general led his men into difficult situations; now, far behind the lines, he directs the movements of his entire command by telephone, keeping in constant touch with his pulsing, vibrating battle-line, and matching his brain power against the brawn of the enemy

For the Freedom of the World

THE United States is fighting solely for the Ideal on which she has thriven since her first beginnings—the Ideal of Liberty. In 1803, when the Algerian Pirates ruled the seas, seizing our sailors and selling them into slavery; confiscating our treasure, and doing their best to blight the commerce of the world, besides wresting tribute from all nations, it was the United States that took a firm stand, and refused to pay for what was her inalienable right—the freedom of the seas. The story of how the beautiful frigate *Philadelphia* was stranded and captured off the coast of Africa, and how a handful of Americans sailed into the harbor of Tripoli in a little ketch, under the very noses of the enemy guns, of how they recaptured and destroyed the *Philadelphia* before the guns could get into action, and escaped without the loss of a single man, is one that throws a brilliant light on the resourcefulness, inventiveness, and daring of our men. By her success in this undertaking the United States paved the way for the freedom of the seas, not only for herself, but for the whole world. The war of

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In every branch of the service one can find our telephone men. At the blade is Hilary Watts, formerly a repairman, now a member of the Royal Flying Corps, and Lieutenant-Instructor—"a daring fellow, who will do his bit O. K."

1812 was fought for the same principle.

And now our boys are once more in the struggle, filled with the conviction that it is their duty to "fight for the threatened freedom and justice of the world," for our interests are bound inextricably with those of our fellow-nations.

President Wilson has set forth clearly and unmistakably our reasons for entering the arena. There is only one way to attain the end that he seeks, and that is to stay in the game to the finish—to leave nothing undone until our work is accomplished. Fortunately, our boys are the kind that pull together, and stick to what they set their hearts on, with a bulldog perseverance that is satisfied with nothing short of unqualified success.

An Unquenchable Spirit

GLANCE back over the historical records, and you will find that in every war in which the United States has engaged since she became a nation, beginning with the American Revolution, she has fought for principle. The Algerian War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, and now the European War,—all are evidences of this. Freedom is no new religion to her. It is ingrained in the very fibre that knits together the many and various races that go to make up her people. The country was settled by men and women who came to seek in this land that which they could not find in their own countries.

Is it any wonder that the sons of these men and women who had the initiative to strike out for themselves, are forceful, determined, and able to suffer all kinds of hardships for an ideal? Our boys are not perfect by any means. They are only human. They are not easily discouraged. They are good sports, and fight the harder to gain their end when the obstacles are greater.

"Do or Die"

OUR boys are learning a great deal about Europe. They are finding out why America stands for progress, looking forward as she does to new fields of attainment, rather than backward upon the accomplishments of dead heroes and statesmen.

It does not occur to our boys that failure may be in store for them. Never has one of them said, "*If* we beat the Germans." It has always been "*When* we beat the Germans." As one of our Marines writes, "The pay office was nightly the scene of many little discussions as to the duration of the war, and its outcome was not disputed in any of these talks."

An incident that has recently been made public by the Navy Department illustrates the fighting spirit of the American, who is ever determined not to start anything that he can not finish. The American steamship *J. L. Luckenbach* was attacked on her way to a French port by a German *U*-boat. After the destroyer had picked up the *Luckenbach's* signal, she was asked how soon she could come into action.

"Two hours," was the answer.

"Too late," flashed the *Luckenbach*.

"Don't surrender," advised the destroyer.

"Never," was the reply.

There is the American spirit. It is the working out of the old motto, "Do or die."

Time for Plain Speaking

"'THE time has come,' the Walrus said, 'to speak of many things.'"

The newspapers report that in Washington the feeling is that there is need for more pro-American propaganda.

It is also said by an English general that great as is the heroism of the British troops, none can equal the French, and that the reason is, that they are fighting for their own native land, their homes and firesides. And what wonders they are accomplishing!

What could not America accomplish if every inhabitant of the United States were as pro-American as the French are pro-French!

We sing

"My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,"

but how much do we mean it?

The time has come to cease relying on what we are going to do and concentrate our every thought and effort on doing what we must do and have begun to do to end this war.

Michael J. Nash, Co. E, 409th Telegraph Battalion, France (in the center), with some of his comrades. One day, when they were trying to get some fresh eggs, they could not make the lady understand until one of them ran around the yard and cackled like a hen. Needless to say, they got the eggs

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Making Washington the Hub of the Telephone System

IN these days of stress and strife, when all energies are bent toward meeting the extraordinary demands that are being made upon our purses, our time, and our activities, we are continually seeing evidences of the tremendous expansion in business and industry consequent upon our début into the world war. On all sides of us are reminders of an enormous increase in manufacture, in construction work, in trade, in transportation, and, last but not least, in communication. The telephone, like other branches of service, has heard the call, "To Arms!" and it has been able to answer "Ready."

The following account of some of his experiences has been written by Wilfred Brent, an installer in the Manhattan - Bronx Division, who was sent to Washington to assist in the rebuilding and extension of the telephone plant there. It gives a picture of action and resourcefulness in meeting all difficulties and shows the diligent labor and untiring energy which the men who were sent to Washington devoted to their tasks.

ANOTHER GROUP OF OPERATORS FROM THE WESTERN DIVISION DOING WAR WORK AT WASHINGTON

Front row—Left to right: Miss Agnes Brown, Medina; Miss Anna Kudolla, Tonawanda; Miss Alice Mattheis, Tonawanda; Miss Florence Zettel, Tonawanda; Miss Anna M. Hartman, Tonawanda. *Middle Row*—Miss Marie Cowen, Medina; Miss Wilma Worden, Jamestown; Miss Lillian Askerberg, Jamestown; Miss Marian Lockwood, Tonawanda; Miss Lena Shine, Tonawanda. *Back Row*—Miss Marie Finn, Albion; Miss Mary Wilson, Albion; Miss Isabel Davis, Dunkirk; Miss Edythe Hurlburt, Mt. Morris; Miss Margaret Beggs, Mt. Morris.

The situation which the Telephone Company had suddenly thrust upon it was similar to that which faced everything in the Capital, but in addition to this, the Telephone Company had to work out its own salvation, while everything else flew to it for assistance. Government departments,—including the post office, which had to ask the public to be considerate, — hotels, boarding houses, transportation lines,—everything was swamped.

Without waiting to know the extent of the demand, and by utilizing every resource at command, the Telephone Company provided additional facilities so rapidly that, in the words of Mr. F. H. Bethell, "we pride ourselves on the fact that we have given the Government what it wanted, where it wanted it, and when it wanted it, and that we are in a position to continue to meet all proper demands that may be made upon us."

The Installer in Washington

By Wilfred Brent, Installer, Manhattan-Bronx Division

ALREADY, page after page has been written about the rapid increases of telephone equipment in Washington for the newly created departments of the Government, and for the enlargements in the existing departments. You have probably heard, also, of the building of the new exchange, "Franklin," the "War Baby," in record time.

But there is one man about whose work very little has been said, the man on the job, as we say,—the Telephone Company's installer. I refer to the men from the Associated Bell Companies, who were sent to Washington to help meet the demands for additional telephone equipment. Let me tell you their story.

One miserable rainy night in June, 1917, a few men from New York arrived outside the Union Depot and exclaimed, "So this is Washington!" At that time of night, Washington was very quiet. In fact, there was hardly a person to be seen. The one man whom we did meet gave us a very good description of where we could get lodging for the night, as it was then past eleven o'clock. We were anxious to get a rest, as we were all aware that the following night might see us working until a very late hour, and we were not very far wrong at that.

Washington in War Times

NEXT morning, we fully realized that Washington was not as dead as we thought, but, on the contrary, was full of life. There was only standing room on the cars going downtown, and the streets were filled with automobiles and people, hurrying to their work in the Government buildings. We at once went to see our Chief to receive the necessary orders preparatory to

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starting work. Yes, we knew before the day was over that we had come to Washington to work.

The Telephone Company's building, which housed the Main Exchange and Toll Boards, looked like the basement of a large dry-goods store, for it was there that the new Franklin Central Office equipment was to be installed, and every floor was filled with packing cases. Even the sidewalks were covered. Packing cases, full of switchboards and toll-boards, stood waiting for the Western Electric to start its big push.

But many things had to be done before the actual installation could take place. Before the Western Electric people could line up their toll boards, the Official Board in the operating room had to be moved about fifty feet. It seemed as though those pesky toll-boards would not stay "put." They seemed to be pushing us out all the time.

So it was that we started to move the 6-position Official Board. Our first move was to get it back about six feet. The task was no easy one, as the telephone service could not be interrupted.

Behind the "B" Boards, in the Trenches

THE mass of cables had to be coaxed inch by inch as we rolled the switchboard back, with the operators following and continuously answering the calls as the lights came in. It was hard, strenuous work for a hot night, but not so strenuous as the life in the trenches, as we called our work at the back of the "B" switchboard; and many a man thought he would be capable of enduring any life in the French trenches after the day and night experiences behind those "B" boards, struggling with cables, while the thermometer registered at times over 100 degrees.

By that time our gang had grown, for men came from Baltimore, Philadelphia, and other cities, in addition to the Western Electric Company's men, numbering 150 in all. Trench "B" was pretty crowded for a hot night, and although you had all the light available, you were apt to be walked upon as you lay there struggling with cables.

Every telephone man knows that if you have any cables to pull out of a big cable run, they inevitably happen to be on the bottom, and so it was with us. That was the reason for our lying flat on the floor, in order to pull some of our answering Jack cables from underneath the toll and "B" board cables. We then swung them over a temporary scaffold stretched across from the "A" board to the center of the operating room, and placed them in position, ready for the first section of the board to be moved up.

All for Uncle Sam

THE Washington Street Railway's P.B.X. was working in the first three positions of the Official Board, so we transferred their lines temporarily to a 2-position 550 "B" board, moved the first three positions to the other end of the room, and placed permanently our trunk and multiple cables, ready to move the lines up from the last three positions.

When all the lines had been transferred, we gradually moved up our remaining positions, and got them into place. It was a great sight to see the Western Electric swarm with their men into the vacated space. There were carpenters, mechanics, and wire men, all working like so many ants, each doing his particular part, with but one thought, —it was for Uncle Sam.

Day and night shifts were quite in fashion. A rush job for the Government would come in, and everything else would be dropped until it was completed. One of these rushes occurred when the Ordnance Department commenced to grow, and took over the War Department and the entire Hooe Building (a very old-time office building which once housed the Geographic Society).

On every floor temporary offices were set up, and paperboard partitions erected, making private offices. Strings of telephone wires were hastily run all over the floors for extensions to the switchboard. A 640-line No. 4 P.B.X. was installed in place of the 320-line board, which had previously been doing business comfortably for them for some time. An army of mechanics was working on every floor. We telephone men worked day and night in order to complete our end of the job.

The work finished, a steady flow of uniformed officers of the army, stenographers, and clerks came in. Every floor in the building was alive with them, and there were plenty of telephones for them to use, too.

One Way of Handling a Rush Job

THE taking over of entire buildings, and, in fact, of every inch of available office space in the city, by the numerous commissions and departments has kept the installer busy. The installation supervisors have had to be constantly on the job, to know where to get apparatus with which to complete a rush job. Engineers have been continually working in order to improve the Government's telephone service, and have poured in rush orders upon the equipment department.

Additional trunks or cord circuits for a Government P.B.X. have had to be installed, without waiting for the necessary material to be supplied from Hawthorne or Philadelphia, and many a civilian's P.B.X. was temporarily robbed of equipment to complete one of these jobs. As the telephone business was somewhat reduced and a number of trunk lines cancelled during the summer months, we took the apparatus from these idle trunk lines, and replaced it later in time for normal fall business.

Utilizing Every Inch of Space

THE operating room of the War Department was like a maze, temporary cables being strewn across the floor, with planking over them. Men worked every night to put in some new equipment to tide them over until the new 15-position switchboard, which was under construction in the next room, was ready. At first two extra positions were installed. Then, four were installed parallel to the other boards. A Saturday and Sunday session was necessary to install interposition call wire trunks.

No P.B.X. operating room in the country looked like this one, every inch of space being utilized.

The Council of National Defense was a large and rapidly growing department, having its quarters in the new Munsey Building. The operating room of the department, however, was so small that you had to take off your coat before you would get in. Nevertheless, we squeezed another 2-position switchboard into it.

Once more we were called upon to stick it through until we had given them the interposition call wire trunks and board. Things went along smoothly, but not for long, as they moved into their new building with a new and larger switchboard.

Other departments all came in for some hasty telephone installations, but it would not be possible to recite them. This review, however, shows how things hummed in Washington when the Government was moulding into shape its gigantic war machine, and how the Telephone Company stood ever ready to meet Government needs.

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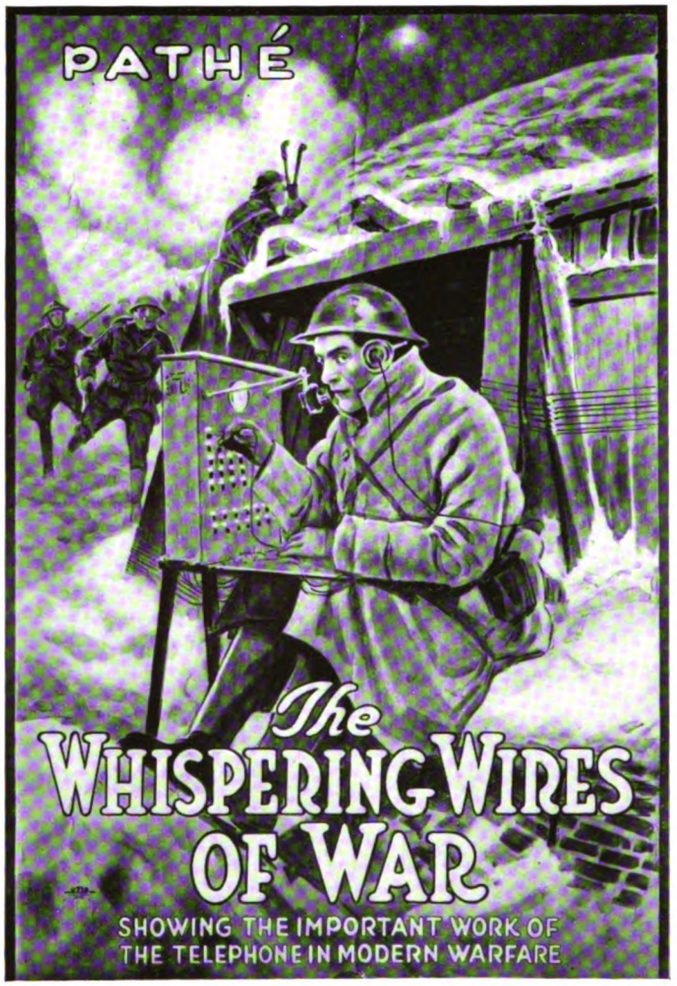
"The Whispering Wires of War"

A PUFF of smoke, and a huge gun rolls back in place; a terrific explosion, and earth and stones are hurled high into the air like a mighty geyser, and over the telephone, from an unseen observer, the gunners know that their missile has found its target, far across "No Man's Land," in the enemy's lines.

In the front line trenches our Americans are grabbing their rifles, and are standing ready to spring forward at a signal, every one of them confident that the "man behind" at headquarters will give it at exactly the right moment.

It comes! They leap over the top, and, rifles in hand, rush towards the German lines, determination written on every face.

You hold your breath and grasp the arms of your seat, every nerve tense and teeth clenched; you try to tell yourself that it is only a "movie," but somehow you know that, though it is a motion picture, "The Whispering Wires of War" is the real thing.



Poster displayed in front of the Strand Theatre, New York, announcing "The Whispering Wires of War"

A Real Reel

"ONLY a movie," but a thriller! Of all the subjects that have been chosen to represent the various phases of war as it is carried on in 1918, this of the telephone man is the most interesting that we have seen so far. In fact, the Pathé people have considered it interesting and important enough to run as a special war reel.

It is war—grim war—and grips you as strongly as though you were looking at the actual scenes on the battle-fields of France. And no wonder, for there on the screen before you are our own men, of the Second Signal Corps Battalion, leaving Camp Alfred Vail, Little Silver, New Jersey, to enter upon the long journey overseas for which all were so eager.

You see them as they march with swinging Yankee stride, "straight of limb, true of eye, steady, unafraid." They, at least, are wholly in the war, and there is no looking back, for they are on their way to Berlin.

"On the Job" in France

THEN, when you see our boys marching down a little village street in France, and see them at work, putting up temporary poles and lines, paying out wire, or, when near the firing line, testing for breaks in the wires, and using their portable telephones, even in the face of the German cannon—you are stirred and are filled with pride in the 7,000 Bell telephone men in the service of Uncle Sam and the folks back home.

The Master Mind

IF Napoleon had had at his command the genius of the wires there is no telling what would have been the outcome of his campaigns. In "The Whispering Wires of War" you see the work of the Signal Corps, the power that coördinates the firing of the batteries, the making of charges and assaults, and movements of various kinds dictated by the commander at his headquarters.

There he sits, planning the next move to outwit the Hun. He moves some pins on a large war

One of "Ye Merrie Buzzers," sending a message to the firing line, and listening for an answer. A few shells or so do not frighten him, or deter him from keeping army business speeding over the wires

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map, takes up the telephone, gives a command, and the wires of war get into action, transmitting his word to artillerymen, aero-squads, or front-line trenches, as the case may be.

Colossal Task Performed Abroad

IMAGINE the task of shipping to France the telephone equipment alone, adequate to meet every emergency "over there"! Wires, portable telephones, portable switchboards, generators of electricity, efficient men to operate the system—all have been supplied, and are forming a most valuable unit of service in the American Expeditionary Forces abroad.

After all, the thing that matters is that the telephone service in France be as perfect as it is possible to make it, and it is. You do not hear complaints, though in these times criticism seems to be the order of the day, about the share of the telephone man in the war. From all quarters comes praise without stint, and it is praise well-earned.

Wholly in the War

THE entire Bell System is wholly in the war, unqualifiedly and unreservedly. War business has priority over all other demands for service and equipment. What the telephone Signal Corps men who have gone to France are doing, as shown in this picture, is only another phase of what all the men and women in the Bell System are doing throughout the length and breadth of this country in helping to win the war. Every other consideration or demand is subordinated to that compelling purpose, and the public also is coming to realize the importance of this use of the telephone, and is coöperating.

Universal Service

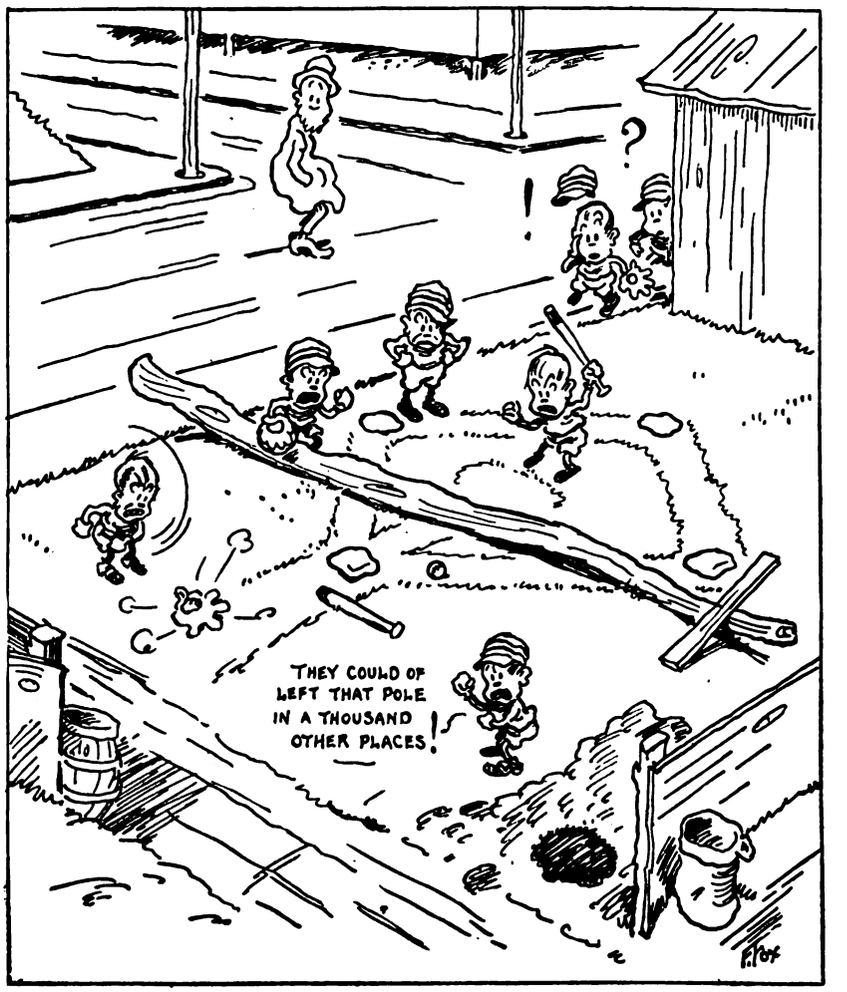
WE people of the twentieth century have formed the habit of assuming that everything is possible, and that very little hasn't been accomplished to-day by genius and science. Our fast express trains make the "seven league boots" of ancient story seem but a trifling exploit; fairy stories lose their glamour in the light of present-day flying; and distance, the great obstacle of our forefathers, is entirely obliterated by the telephone.

The feat of sending the human voice by wireless telephone to both far-away Hawaii and Paris has been performed by the Bell system, and the Navy Department has used our radio telephone system in successful communication with a battleship at sea.

Whether or not a new private branch exchange operator in Syracuse had heard of these achievements, she had faith in the Bell System. She was signalled by her employer, the head of a large manufacturing concern, who said, "Get me Mr. ....., at 122 Broadway, New York." Soon the operator gave him this report: "Mr. ..... has gone to Japan. Shall I try him there?"

But such long distance talking over land and sea isn't yet open to the public, whatever the future may hold.

The Telephone Company Has Often Been Cussed Out, But On This Occasion Every Record Was Shattered.



(©, 1918, by the Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.) By FONTAINE FOX

Reproduced from the *Evening Post*, N. Y.

The Voice of Authority

"Did anybody call me while I was out?" asked Mr. Gadspur.

"Yes, sir," answered the office boy. "A lady did."

"A lady, eh?"

"Yes, sir. But I think it was Mrs. Gadspur."

"What did she say?"

"She said, 'Is that Green Hill four-four-seven-three?' Then I said 'Yes-sum.' Then she said 'Summon Mr. Gadspur to the phone at once.'"

"Ahem. Yes, that was Mrs. Gadspur."

Rochester Evening Times.

May, 1918

How can a fellow sing gladness,
The gladness that comes with the spring,
When the whole world seems smothered with sadness,
When war is just "Hell on the wing?"

The answer is nature's old story,
In autumn the trees seem to die,
But we have them again in their glory
'Neath the life-giving sun of May's sky.

And the lads who for us die victorious,
Are but lost to the world—for a day—
To blossom again, far more glorious,
In the land where the time's always May.

ROBERT STEWART SUTLIFFE.

R. S. V. P.

(*Yonkers Statesman*)

Mr. Flatbush—Have you responded to Mrs. Bensonhurst's invitation to her party?

Mrs. Flatbush—Yes.

"Did you write her to-day?"

"No, I didn't write; I used the telephone."

"Used the telephone? Why, that's no way to respond to an invitation to a party."

"Why not? Ours is a party wire, isn't it?"

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Jolly Minstrel Show Given By New Jersey Plant Department

"FUN" was the keynote of the evening's entertainment that was held at the Telephone Club on March 23, when the employees of the New Jersey Division Plant Department held a minstrel show. On this occasion New Jersey broke two records. Although this did not involve customary feats, such as surpassing others in running aerial cables or stringing wires, it was an event which, in their own words, "will go down in history as a record performance with a record attendance.

The evening's pleasure began and ended in an informal social manner. Preceding the entertainment an excellent dinner was served in the Club Grill, and it was so well attended that it was found necessary to have two relays of diners. When the actors of the performance which followed, had made their formal bow, and the audience had vented its enthusiasm in loud applause, dancing completed the enjoyment of the evening.

Apparently only those who were to constitute the audience took their seats in the hall, awaiting with anticipation the raising of the curtain, but they soon found that they had been deluded by a little bit of camouflage, and that there were actors in their very midst. When the orchestra had played the opening selection, and the chorus had filed on the stage, it was discovered that there were no end men. A. F. MacHugh, the director, then called for volunteers from the audience. In response, up sprang Bill Walker, who marched to the platform, took an empty chair, and was addressed by the interlocutor as General Disability. He was clothed in a uniform and an array of medals that would have made Napoleon envious.

A disturbance in the rear of the hall was the forerunner of the appearance of Captain Fatty Arbuckle and Private Affairs, alias Harry Handler and John Gregg, who also found chairs on the firing line. The last to reveal himself and go before the foot lights was Lieutenant String Bean, otherwise known as William Corbett. With the end men finally entrenched the house calmed down after its burst of merriment, and Major C. N. Weems in his double rôle of interlocutor and band master, started the program. With his smartly trimmed Drum Major's suit of white and red and with a head gear of black fur, he held the attention of an amazed audience, as well as his band, in the mighty swinging of his nickle plated baton.

The surprises of the evening were many, as Jersey did not believe that there was so much talent in its organization. The program was varied and alive with interest. Besides the very humorous popular songs sung by the end men there was a cornet selection by Ed. Bixel, and a violin solo by John Torpy, Jr. The opening chorus "Fight for the U. S. A." was written by two New Jersey Plant men, J. Gregg and L. A. Jennus. Special songs were sung by Ed. Clinton; John Torpy, Jr.; Jas. Campbell; Hugh Strong; Sam Rorke, and Chas. Neuman. The part of an eccentric comedian was carried out in every respect by Ed. Mullan. C. Kline, and C. Lee, together, kept the house in gales of merriment in performing a very unique Mexican Gavotte.

A touch of patriotism was given to the closing number of the minstrel with the display of an electric lighted bell, four feet high, and made of red, white, and blue crepe paper, which swung above the heads of the chorus while it sang Liberty Bell.

Aeroplanes Discussed at a Meeting of the Western Section, Telephone Society

A SUBJECT that is holding the attention of the entire country to-day, "Air Craft and Battle Planes," was discussed by Mr. Fay L. Faurote at a meeting of the Western Section of the Telephone Society, held on March 26, in the ballroom of the Statler Hotel in Buffalo.

Mr. Faurote, who is Advertising Manager of the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Corporation, traced the development of aircraft from the early stages to the battle planes of the Western front. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, there were many instances of persons who, by a parachute contrivance, a large cigar shaped balloon, mechanical wings, or a multiplane, attempted to imitate the flight of birds. They all had very limited success.

Most of the advancement in flying has been made in the last fifteen years. The first instance where a person was carried from the ground in actual flight by mechanical means without artificial aid was in December, 1903. At this time a machine that Messrs. Orville and Wilbur Wright had constructed made four successful flights. The announcement of the first successes of the Wright brothers gave rise to much experimentation in England and France, as well as in America. In France there was the greatest enthusiasm and valuable cash prizes and trophies were offered to those who who made successful flights. In that country the light-weight gasoline motor of great efficiency was first developed for use in flying machines, that made it possible to operate aerial propellers.

A biplane invented by Glenn H. Curtiss shared the early honors with the Wright brothers' aeroplane. In connection with the men who have been instrumental in the evolution of the aeroplane Mr. Faurote spoke especially of Dr. Alexander Graham Bell's interest in aerial navigation and of the formation of the Aerial Experimental Association of which Dr. Bell is a member.

Mr. Faurote showed pictures and discussed briefly some of the modern types of aerial machines. For military reasons he was unable to tell of the vast strides now taking place in aircraft production and of the many improvements and increased use of airplanes by the armies and navies of the world. The future of the aeroplane for commercial and pleasure purposes is most promising, was the opinion of Mr. Faurote. In addition to the aeromail carrying and express service, eventually scout planes may be used by telephone linemen to points hard to reach in other ways.

Following the lecture, moving pictures were displayed, showing the laying of the Raritan Bay Submarine Cable, our Signal Corps boys in camp, the construction of the Hudson toll cable, and efficiency methods used by our Company.

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Organization Changes

Commercial Department

W. F. Baker, Assistant to General Commercial Superintendent, has resigned to accept employment with the Guaranty Trust Company, of New York. The position of Assistant to General Commercial Superintendent has been abolished.

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

A. D. Scovel, manager of traffic inspection, assigned to Washington to have charge of the telephone service of the War Department, with the title of "Director of Telephones."

E. S. Haldane, appointed acting manager of traffic inspection, and all employees of the Traffic Inspection Department will report to him.

Miss Grace M. Bates, evening senior operator, Bryant, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Edith Byrns, night senior operator, Columbus, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Julia T. Carroll, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Kathleen A. Coghlan, senior operator, Madison Square, appointed supervisor.

Miss Florence Colston, senior operator, Worth, appointed supervisor.

Miss Irene M. Donahue, senior operator, Franklin, appointed supervisor.

Miss Sara J. Donovan, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Charlotte C. Dowling, evening senior operator, Westchester, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret F. Foy, senior operator, Circle, appointed supervisor.

Miss Madeline Herdegen, supervisor, Schuyler, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Louise M. Hermanson, operator, City Island, appointed chief operator.

Miss Rosea Lampert, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Marie Leahy, evening senior operator, Farragut, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Henrietta M. McCade, senior operator, Franklin, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna G. O'Donnell, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth O'Keefe, service observer, Madison Square, appointed supervisor.

Miss Sadie O'Neill, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Minna A. Rathjen, senior operator, John, appointed supervisor.

Miss Frieda Schaffner, supervisor, Columbus, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Catherine T. Smith, senior operator, Lenox, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Agnes Walsh, night supervisor, Melrose toll, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Julia V. Williams, supervisor, Worth, appointed senior supervisor.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss M. M. Murphy, senior toll clerk, appointed toll supervisor, Harlem accounting office.

T. L. Stewart, revenue methods accountant, appointed traveling auditor.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

G. H. Merrill, division superintendent of traffic, temporarily assigned to work in Washington.

W. B. Morell, in addition to his duties as division superintendent of traffic, Westchester, will assume supervision of New Jersey Division, as acting division superintendent of traffic, in the absence of Mr. Merrill.

Miss Sarah E. Ackerman, senior operator, Paterson, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Ruth I. Neill, evening senior operator, Paterson, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Maltida Steigner, evening senior operator, Paterson, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen G. Shields, night operator, West New Brighton, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Ida M. Baxter, supervisor, Paterson, appointed chief operator, Rutherford

Miss Katherine Buckley, night operator Dover, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Agnes Sutton, evening senior operator, Bergen, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Marguerite Gorham, senior operator, Englewood, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Lily Larson, evening supervisor, Caldwell, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss May A. Healy, evening chief operator, Branch Brook, transferred to evening chief operator, Orange.

Plant Department

Michael Dempsey, lineman, appointed line foreman, Jersey City sub-district.

John F. Flaacke, splicing foreman, appointed supervising splicing foreman.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Anna Cauley, night operator, Richmond Hill, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Louise Dassau, evening supervisor, Decatur, appointed night chief operator, Bushwick.

Miss Isabel O. Eastman, evening chief operator, Bedford, appointed acting chief operator, Bay Ridge.

Miss Margaret W. Fitzpatrick, night senior operator, Coney Island, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Orella E. Frey, senior operator, East Hampton, appointed chief operator.

Miss Brenda Hilpert, night supervisor, Far Rockaway, appointed night chief operator.

Miss May Kehoe, evening senior operator, Bay Ridge, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Catherine Knissel, evening senior operator, Bushwick, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Carolyn Lange, evening senior operator, Midwood, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Alice G. Lynch, supervisor, Evergreen, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Elizabeth Mahaffy, senior operator, Bath Beach, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Julia Mullaney, senior operator, Greenpoint, appointed evening supervisor, Stagg.

Miss Jenny F. Murray, assistant chief operator, Bedford, appointed chief operator, Midwood.

Miss Helen C. Olsen, evening senior operator, Jamaica, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Edna Reilly, senior operator, Garden City, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna M. Sandel, evening supervisor, Bay Ridge, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Lilian Stoddard, multiple marking operator, Bedford, appointed evening supervisor, traffic complaint.

Miss Elsie A. Terry, evening senior operator, Bedford, appointed evening supervisor, Decatur.

Miss Sarah I. Walton, evening senior operator, Far Rockaway, appointed evening supevisor.

Miss Mary E. Whitley, evening chief operator, Prospect, appointed assistant chief operator, Bedford.

Plant Department

J. G. House, wire chief, Bath Beach and Coney Island, transferred to wire chief, Bay Ridge.

J. A. Selby, wire chief, Bay Ridge, transferred to wire chief, Bath Beach and Coney Island.

L. R. Merson, wire chief of South, appointed supervisor of the Hamilton office, to relieve the wire chief of Main on account of the increased business.

Hudson Division

Plant Department

C. P. Cooper, division plant superintendent, temporarily assigned to special work in Washington, D. C.

E. H. Greenleaf appointed acting division plant superintendent during the absence of Mr. Cooper.

Traffic Department

Miss Margaret Ryan, senior operator, Poughkeepsie, appointed supervisor.

Miss Margaret I. Weber, senior toll operator, Albany Toll, appointed toll supervisor.

Miss Mary A. Welch, evening senior operator, Troy, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen E. Waldron, evening senior operator, Schenectady, appointed evening supervisor.

The following operators include those not already mentioned who have been sent to Washington:

SEPTEMBER, 1917

Allen, Miss Eunice, Albany (Main)
Baker, Miss Florence M., Albany (West)
Blum, Miss Gertrude D., Albany (Main)
Brady, Miss Marie J., Albany (West)
Canfield, Miss Helen F., Albany (Main)
Dolan, Miss Anne E., Albany (Main)
Fayles, Miss Catherine V., Albany, (Main)
Graham, Miss Veronica C., Albany (Main)
Hannan, Miss Rose A., Albany (Main)

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Henry, Miss Dorothy E., Albany (Main)
Hunter, Miss Margaret M., Albany (Main)
McNamara, Miss Rose M., Albany (Main)
Reitz, Miss Bertha, Albany (West)
Rutledge, Miss Josephine M., Albany (Main)
Ryan, Miss Marie A., Albany (West)
Ryan, Miss Lucy M., Albany (Main)
Smith Miss Viola M., Albany (Main)
Sullivan, Miss Nora M., Albany (Main)
Thibaudeau, Miss Eda, Albany (Main)
Thibaudeau, Miss Florence H., Albany (Main)

OCTOBER, 1917

Bellegrade, Miss Gladys A., Albany (East)
Dugan, Miss Marie C., Albany (Main)
Judge, Miss Helen, Troy
Smith, Miss Helen A., Albany (Main)

DECEMBER, 1917

Carncross, Miss Florence G., Albany (Mgr. Operators' Training Department)
Leahey, Miss Helen M., Troy

JANUARY, 1918

Barry, Miss Frances H., Schenectady
Beaupre, Miss Harriet F., Glens Falls
Gregor, Miss Hazel M., Albany (West)
Griffin, Miss Alice E., Troy
Hines, Miss Eva, Troy
McNamara, Miss Elizabeth M., Albany (Main)
McNamara, Miss Mary A., Albany (Main)
Martin, Miss Genevieve F., Schenectady
Milliman, Miss Edith A., Schenectady
Nelson, Miss Ida M., Schenectady
Quinn, Miss Elizabeth C., Glens Falls
Reilly, Miss Mary J., Albany (Main)
Savage, Miss Eva A., Hudson Falls
Scott, Miss Marguerite V., Schenectady
Wallace, Miss Margaret M., Glens Falls

FEBRUARY, 1918

Balfe, Miss Margaret M., Albany (Main)
Bauman, Miss Marguerite R., Albany (West)
Casey, Miss Helen T., Glens Falls
Cummings, Miss Frances M., Albany (Main)
De Marsh, Miss Helen E., Glens Falls
Jesco, Miss Olga D., Albany (East)
Jelinek, Miss Lillie E., Albany (West)
Kelleher, Miss Marguerite M., Glen Falls
Le Roux, Miss Mary O., Albany (Main)
Lawler, Miss Grace E., Albany (Main)
Maxstadt, Miss Gertrude M., Albany (Main)
O'Hara, Miss Catherine M., Albany (West)
Quinn, Miss Catherine A., Albany (Main)
Reardon, Miss Alice, Glens Falls
Schultz, Miss Viola P., Albany (West)
Spencer, Miss Helen M., Albany (Main)
Swan, Miss Mary L., Hudson Falls
Van Valkenburg, Miss Kathryn J., Albany (Main)

MARCH, 1918

Allen, Miss Dorothy A., Troy
Allen, Miss Mildred J., Troy
Bingham, Miss Alida E., Troy
Bounds, Miss Lillian M., Albany (Main)
Conners, Miss Elizabeth M., Albany (Main)
Cox, Miss Anna R., Albany (Main)
Donnelly, Miss Esther M., Troy
Dykeman, Miss Sarah V., Albany (West)
Finn, Miss Veronica, Albany (Main)
Flood, Miss Katherine B., Troy
Linsler, Miss Emma T., Troy
Loeffler, Miss Anna M., Troy
McCarthy, Miss Jennie H., Albany (Main)
McKeever, Miss Helen M., Albany (Main)
Monahan, Miss Anna E., Troy
O'Connor, Miss Teresa D., Troy
Rees, Miss Elsa X., North Troy
Sitterley, Miss Florence C., Cohoes
Skelley, Miss Marie J., Albany (West)
Wilkins, Miss Harriet S., Albany (Main)

Central Division

Commercial Department

W. M. Hicks, resident agent, Bath, transferred to Elmira as chief clerk, reporting to the local manager.

L. H. Terrill, chief clerk, Elmira, transferred to Corning to assist the local manager with consolidation matters.

C. S. Tallman, salesman, Waverley, appointed resident agent, Waverly and Owego, reporting to the district manager, Southern.

L. R. Walters, resident agent, Owego and Waverly, appointed resident agent, Bath, reporting to the local manager, Corning.

Traffic Department

Miss Louise Cazenovia, information bureau operator, Ithaca, N. Y., appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Nellie Crockett, senior operator, Syracuse-James, appointed supervisor.

Miss Alice Thompson, evening senior operator, Auburn, appointed evening supervisor.

Plant Department

F. E. Drake, supervising wire chief, Elmira district, appointed wire chief, Elmira, vice C. L. Burke, deceased.

L. L. Hess, installer, Syracuse, transferred to division equipment engineer's force as switchboard wireman.

S. P. Young, outside plant engineer, resigned to enter military service.

Western Division

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss I. S. Douglas, trial balance clerk, appointed trial balance supervisor.

Traffic Department

Miss Pauline F. Galligan, night operator, Abbott, appointed night senior operator.

Miss Helen Welch, operator, North, appointed senior operator.

Miss Pearl C. Braun, evening operator, Oxford, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Rose H. Klein, operator, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Amelia B. Bitterman, senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Alexandria Pilbrow, operator, Buffalo toll board, appointed senior operator.

Miss Cecilia C. Mostyn, evening operator, Chase, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Cathryn M. McGuire, evening senior operator, Chase, appointed supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth Bloom, night operator, Chase, appointed night senior operator.

Miss Kathryn M. Driscoll, operator, Genesee, appointed senior operator.

Miss Grace E. Ford, senior operator, Main, appointed chief clerk.

Miss Bessie Love, operator, Main, appointed senior operator.

Miss Helen C. Ball, operator, Main, appointed senior operator.

Miss Catherine McCann, operator, Main, appointed senior operator.

Miss Ethel Platts, operator, Medina, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Ruth A. Specht, acting evening chief operator, Webster, appointed evening chief operator.

A foreman who with his gang was busy stringing wire was a little put out by some part of the work not going just as it should. While hurrying down the road to correct the trouble, a woman who wanted some wire for a clothes line stopped him and asked, "Mister, what's the best kind of wire for a clothes line?" The foreman's answer was promptly given. "Madam, barbed wire is best; you don't need any clothes pins."

No names need be mentioned but probably the foreman and the men in the gang will recognize the story.—WILLIS HILLS, District Manager, Kingston, N. Y.

SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORY ADVERTISING MANAGERS OF ASSOCIATED BELL TELEPHONE COMPANIES, PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL 8-9, 1918

(Left to right): 1—M. J. Meagher, Directory Advertising Manager, New England Tel. & Tel. Co., Boston; 2—F. A. McNally, Directory Advertising Manager, Chesapeake & Potomac Tel. Co., Baltimore; 3—J. E. Southerton, Advertising Agent, Southern New England Telephone Co., New Haven; 4—A. W. Howard, District Commercial Manager, Providence Telephone Co., Providence; 5—M. J. Eitleman, Division Advertising Agent, New York Telephone Co., Albany; 6—P. W. Eldridge, Jr., Sales Manager, New York Telephone Co., New York; 7—H. G. Stokes, Copy Manager, New York Telephone Co., New York; 8—J. H. Atchison, Directory Advertising Manager, Bell Telephone Co. of Pa., Philadelphia; 9—J. B. Taft, Division Publicity Manager, Bell Telephone Co. of Pa., Harrisburg; 10—J. F. Allen, Division Publicity Manager, Central District Telephone Co., Pittsburgh; 11—F. J. Wisse, Editor, *Telephone News*, Philadelphia (seated directly behind Mr. Allen); 12—J. F. Wardle, Directory Superintendent, Michigan State Telephone Co., Detroit; 13—E. P. Brennan, Chief Clerk, Commercial New York Telephone Company, Syracuse; 14—E. D. Anderson, Division Advertising Manager, New York Telephone Co., Buffalo

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

Competition to Be Discouraged

THE Public Service Commission, First District, New York, in passing upon the complaint of Samuel Evans Maires et al. *v.* The Flatbush Gas Company, stated among other things that it was now the established policy of the state to discourage competition in public service enterprises and that public regulation has been established as a substitute controlling force in place of free competition; that this policy had regard to the conservation of the legitimate value of investment in such enterprises no less than to the public welfare involved in the maintenance of adequate service at reasonable rates. The Public Service Commission law itself, in setting forth the matters to be considered by the commission in determining the reasonableness of a rate, particularly emphasized the consideration of the investment in the property of the utility. Consistently with the recognition of the reciprocal rights and obligations of the public utilities and consumers, there is a necessary implication that utilities will demand no greater compensation by way of rates than a reasonable remuneration for the use of the reasonable, necessary, and proper contribution of their capital for adequate service to the public. Value for rate making cannot be said to be fair to the utilities and the patrons alike which does not fully take into account the safeguards and assurances which the public under the system of regulation extends to investors, under this advanced policy of adjusting the relations between public service corporations and the public. This policy is founded upon the highest conception of what is fair between the utilities and the public, and that is, in essence, always involved in the determination of fair value as a rate base.

What Public Utility Should Be Allowed to Earn

THE Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey authorized the New Jersey Gas Company to increase its rates in Vineland and Landis townships, holding that a public utility should be allowed to earn enough revenue to provide for the following outgo: (1) Reasonable operating expenses sufficient to provide for conducting its business, including current repairs and maintenance; (2) the taxes imposed upon the utility; (3) a sufficient sum to provide a reserve for annual depreciation accruing over and above current repairs and maintenance, from which reserve replacements may be made when necessary in order to preserve the utility's investment intact; (4) a return on the investment sufficient to command needed capital.

The Breath of Solvency Must Be Kept in Public Utilities During the War

THE Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey in granting the applications of the Public Service Electric Company and the Public Service Gas Company, for authority to increase electric and gas rates, stated that in authorizing the increase it had not dealt with the value of the companies' properties, since in the existing emergency the determining consideration must be to keep the properties in uninterrupted and effective operation. Wages and the cost of fuel have greatly increased, and the price of everything used in the process of operating such properties and maintaining them in repair has risen greatly in price since the normal pre-war time. If revenues are not increased to meet these added costs, the money available for dividends will be substantially diminished. In the present financial situation, the public has a vital interest in maintaining the fund available for dividends on the stock of public utilities, since without the assurance of sufficient earnings, such companies will be unable to attract new capital to finance the extensions that are required to meet war needs. A material decrease in dividends would not only result in preventing the free flow of new capital, but would materially depreciate the market value of outstanding securities and would tend to undermine confidence and to render security markets unstable, a condition which would have a direct influence upon the securing of money by the National Government for war purposes. The commission, therefore, held that it was essential that such corporations be permitted to make such additions to their charges for service as would keep in them the breath of solvency, and protect them against unjust loss, and give them a basis of credit on which they may obtain the funds with which to meet the strain put upon them by the government needs. State and local authorities must appreciate the close relation between the soundness and efficiency of these local utilities and the national strength and vigor, and must promptly respond to the call for remedial measures.

Readiness to Serve Charge Justified

IN disposing of the application of the Indiana Power and Water Company for authority to change its rates for electric service, the Public Service Commission of Indiana pointed out among other things that the obligation resting on the company was not alone that of supplying the light or power that was actually used. That in the case of a community where half the patrons were away for half the year, it would not be equitable to leave for the other half the whole burden of carrying the cost of maintaining the service. That during all the period of their absence, the utility must stand ready to serve them on demand, and to do so, had had to build a power house of maximum capacity and to maintain it, and to keep its lines in repair and maintain its office organization, and even to keep meters installed on the absentee's premises, all to the end that no matter what hour he may demand service he shall receive it. This preparedness, this readiness to serve, is worth something to the consumer, whether he makes a request for the service or not. He may not use any gas for a month, but the utility is expected to stand ready to serve him at

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any time. By every principle of equity he should be bound to render a fair return to the utility, and therefore a minimum charge is warranted.

A Franchise Granted Without a Specific Time Limitation is Not Revocable at Will

THE Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company operated an interurban electric railroad in Stark County, Ohio, under a franchise granted by the Board of County Commissioners in 1892. This franchise specified no limit of time. In 1913 the commissioners passed an ordinance directing that the grant should be terminated unless the Traction Company would reduce its fares, and by order of the commissioners, the prosecuting attorney of the county instituted *quo warranto* proceedings asking that the Traction Company be ousted from exercising the franchise. The Supreme Court of Ohio found in favor of the county, and the Traction Company brought the case to the United States Supreme Court for review. Said court held that the circumstances surrounding the grant of 1892 showed no intention either to give or to accept a mere revocable right, and that it would be against common experience to conclude that rational men willingly invested large sums of money in building a railroad subject to destruction at any moment by mere resolution of the County Commissioners. That, therefore, since there was no controlling provision in the State Constitution or statutes, the franchise in question was not subject to annulment in the manner attempted by the Board of County Commissioners. That in the absence of limitations such a franchise continues so long as both parties consent.

The State May Fix Rates, Despite a Contract

THE borough of St. Clair filed a bill in equity in the Common Pleas Court of Pennsylvania praying that the Tamaqua and Pottsville Electric Railway Company and certain other electric railway companies either be restrained from running their cars over a certain designated route, or prohibited from charging more than a five cent fare thereon. The borough alleged that this five cent fare was fixed by the franchise under which the companies were operating. The Common Pleas Court dismissed the bill holding that it had no jurisdiction and thereupon the borough appealed to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court held among other things that where contracts fixing a rate unlimited in time had been entered into by public service companies, the state had the right through the Public Service Commission, notwithstanding such contract, to inquire into and adjust the rates to a reasonable basis. That such contracts cannot be enforced indefinitely, and must give way to the general policy of the law under which the Legislature created a special tribunal to pass upon and determine questions relating to the reasonableness of the rates charged by public service corporations. The court said further that the question of the reasonableness of rates established by public service corporations must in the first instance be submitted to the Public Service Commission. Should the commission decide that the change in fare herein is unreasonable, then, so far as plaintiff is concerned, that will be the end of the matter, but should the commission permit the increase, then, upon appeal to the court, the plaintiff can raise all the questions properly involved in which it has an interest and have them passed upon by the court.

Physical Assets of a Public Utility May Be Sold Separate From Its Franchise

THE Newark Telephone Company operated a telephone system in the City of Newark, N. J. By its certificate of corporation, its existence was limited to twenty years, and its charter expired on August 7, 1915. Thereafter on a bill filed by a stockholder and creditor, a receiver was appointed by the Court of Chancery to wind up its affairs. The property of the corporation comprised physical assets, such as conduits, poles, wires, cables, central office equipment, et cetera, and a franchise to use the streets granted by an ordinance of the city of Newark in 1895. The receiver received an offer from the New York Telephone Company to purchase all the physical properties of the Newark Company, not including said franchise, or in any way subject to it. The receiver submitted this offer to the Court of Chancery and an order was made directing the city and the creditors and stockholders of the Newark Company to show cause why it should not be accepted, and, no one appearing on the return day, the Vice Chancellor ordered that the offer should be accepted. Thereafter, the city applied to have said order opened and modified, and after hearing, this application was denied, whereupon the city appealed to the Court of Errors and Appeals.

The city contended that the order for a separate sale of the physical property was improper because the physical assets of the Newark Company were so united to the franchise granted to it by the city that they could not be sold separate from said franchise. The ordinance by which the city granted the company the right to use its streets did not impose any condition which interfered with the separation of the physical assets and the franchise. It provided that in case the franchise granted should be assigned by the company, it should be held and enjoyed by the assignee subject to all the conditions and restrictions of the franchise, and that in case the assignee was vested with any similar franchises, all such privileges and franchises at that time belonging to the assignee or transferee should, after such assignment, be held and enjoyed "subject to all the conditions, restrictions, limitations, and payments aforesaid." It was further provided that the rights and privileges granted under the franchise should cease and be determined at the end of fifty years, whereupon "all of the subways, cables, wires, conduits, and other property or appliances of *said Telephone Company then* within the streets, shall become the property of the city of Newark." Nowhere in the ordinance was there any prohibition of the right of the company to sell its physical assets.

The Court of Errors and Appeals held that the Court of Chancery had jurisdiction to fix the terms and conditions of the sale of the property and to determine whether it should be sold together or separately, and all other questions incidental to the disposition of the property. That, moreover, when the business of the Newark Company was discontinued as a consequence of the expiration of its charter, its physical property was not forfeited, but was appropriated by law for the payment of its debts and for distribution to its stockholders. That since the charter had expired by its own limitations and the Court of Chancery had appointed a receiver to wind up its affairs on dissolution, it was competent for that court, when justice and equity required it, to order a sale of its physical property apart and free from its franchise to use the streets, since the ordinance of the city granting such secondary franchise contained no provision or conditions prohibiting the separation of the physical property and the franchise. That, moreover, the provision of the franchise providing for the reversion of the property referred only to such property of the company as was *then* within the streets, et cetera, of the city, *i.e.*, property owned by the Company at the end of fifty years during which the franchise was to continue.

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NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, 15 DEY ST., NEW YORK

U. N. BETHELL, President
F. H. BETHELL, First Vice-President
H. F. THURBER, Vice-President
FORD HUNTINGTON, Vice-President
WALTER BROWN, Secretary & Treasurer
J. L. SWAYZE, General Counsel
C. T. RUSSELL, General Solicitor
R. V. MARYE, General Attorney

J. A. STEWART, General Manager
J. S. WILEY, General Auditor
E. F. SHERWOOD, Chief Engineer
H. C. CARPENTER, Engineer
T. P. SYLVAN, Asst. to Vice-President
E. A. GURNEE, Asst. Treasurer
WALDRON HOPPINS, Asst. Secretary
J. S. KENNEDY, Asst. Secretary and Secretary Employees' Benefit Fund Committee.

COMMERCIAL DEPT.

J. S. McCULLOH
General Com'l Supt.

A. D. WELCH
General Com'l Engineer

W. F. CROWELL
Advertising Manager

J. LENIHAN
Manager Collection Bureau

Manhattan-Bronx & Westchester

J. R. POLLOCK
Division Com'l Manager
104 Broad Street

Long Island

H. W. DRAKE
Division Com'l Manager
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

New Jersey

H. G. KERR
Division Com'l Manager
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

J. A. JAMISON, Jr.
Division Gen'l Manager
158 State Street
Albany

Central

D. C. COX
Division Gen'l Manager
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

C. A. SPAULDING
Division Com'l Manager
44 Church Street
Buffalo

PLANT DEPT.

G. C. ALLEN
General Supt. Plant

A. W. ALLEN
Supt. Buildings & Supplies

J. C. RENNARD
Real Estate Manager

W. T. GURNEE
Plant Accountant

Manhattan-Bronx & Westchester

BURCH FORAKER
Division Plant Supt.
24 Walker Street

Long Island

P. D. HONEYMAN
Division Plant Supt.
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

New Jersey

I. J. THORP
Division Plant Supt.
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

C. P. COOPER
Division Plant Supt.
42 Howard Street
Albany

Central

F. J. CHESTERMAN
Division Plant Supt.
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

P. O. JACOBS
Division Plant Supt.
44 Church Street
Buffalo

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General Supt. Traffic

R. H. BOGGS
Traffic Engineer

J. L. TURNER
Supervisor of Traffic

H. G. GREENE
Manager Public Telephones

A. D. SCOVEL
Mgr. Traf. Inspection, M.-B.

Manhattan-Bronx

H. J. SCHULTZ
Division Supt. Traffic
15 Dey Street

Westchester

W. B. MORELL
Division Supt. Traffic
40 South Fifth Ave.
Mt. Vernon

Long Island

G. L. YATES
Division Supt. Traffic
81 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn

New Jersey

G. H. MERRILL
Division Supt. Traffic
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

E. G. ANDERSON
Division Supt. Traffic
158 State Street
Albany

Central

H. H. KENNEDY
Division Supt. Traffic
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

J. J. WELCH
Division Supt. Traffic
44 Church Street
Buffalo

ACCOUNTING DEPT.

P. O. COFFIN
Auditor

J. A. KENNEDY
Auditor of Disbursements

A. J. NORMAN
Auditor of Receipts

B. M. WILSON
Chief Traveling Auditor

Lower Manhattan

L. F. HALSTED
Division Auditor Receipts
24 Walker Street

Upper Manhattan-Bronx

E. A. GIRARD
Division Auditor Receipts
193–201 Manhattan Ave.
New York

Westchester

W. H. CALLAHAN
Division Auditor Receipts
22 West First Street
Mt. Vernon

Long Island

A. W. DEAS
Division Auditor Receipts
24 Walker Street
New York

New Jersey

C. H. LEONARD
Division Auditor Receipts
281 Washington Street
Newark

Hudson

J. P. HILL
Division Auditor Receipts
158 State Street
Albany

Central

E. E. LINES
Division Auditor Receipts
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

H. W. GAUL
Division Auditor Receipts
44 Church Street
Buffalo

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"A Great Net of Mercy Drawn Through an Ocean of Unspeakable Pain"

What Your Red Cross Dollars Do

An accounting of Expenditures of the First Red Cross War Fund

Every one of the twenty million and more Red Cross members is entitled to this Statement. Your local Red Cross Chapter can give you further details.

First War Fund Appropriations up to March 1st, 1918

Foreign Relief:	
Relief in France	$30,936,103.04
Relief in Belgium	2,086,131.00
Relief in Russia	1,243,845.07
Relief in Roumania	2,676,368.76
Relief in Italy	3,588,826.00
Relief in Serbia	875,180.76
Relief in Great Britain	1,885,750.75
Relief in other Foreign Countries	3,576,300.00
Relief for Prisoners, etc.	343,304.00
Equipment and expenses in U. S. of Personnel for Europe	113,800.00
Total Foreign Relief	$47,325,609.38
Restricted as to use by Donor	2,520,409.57

United States Relief:	
U. S. Army Base Hospitals	$ 54,000.00
U. S. Navy Base Hospitals	32,000.00
U. S. Medical and Hospital Work	531,000.00
U. S. Sanitary Service	403,000.00
U. S. Camp Service	6,451,150.86
U. S. Miscellaneous	1,118,748.41
Total U. S. Relief	$ 8,589,899.27
Working Capital for purchase of supplies for resale to Chapters or for shipment abroad	15,000,000.00
Working cash advances for France and United States	4,286,000.00
Total of War Fund Appropriations	$77,721,918.22

At the close of the first year of the War the Red Cross goes to the public for the raising of the Second War Fund with a record of appropriations which warrants continued contributions to this great relief work. The Red Cross is the Army behind the Army.

Second Red Cross War Fund Week May 20-27

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The TELEPHONE REVIEW

Vol. 9. No. 6 June, 1918

LIBERTY BELLS

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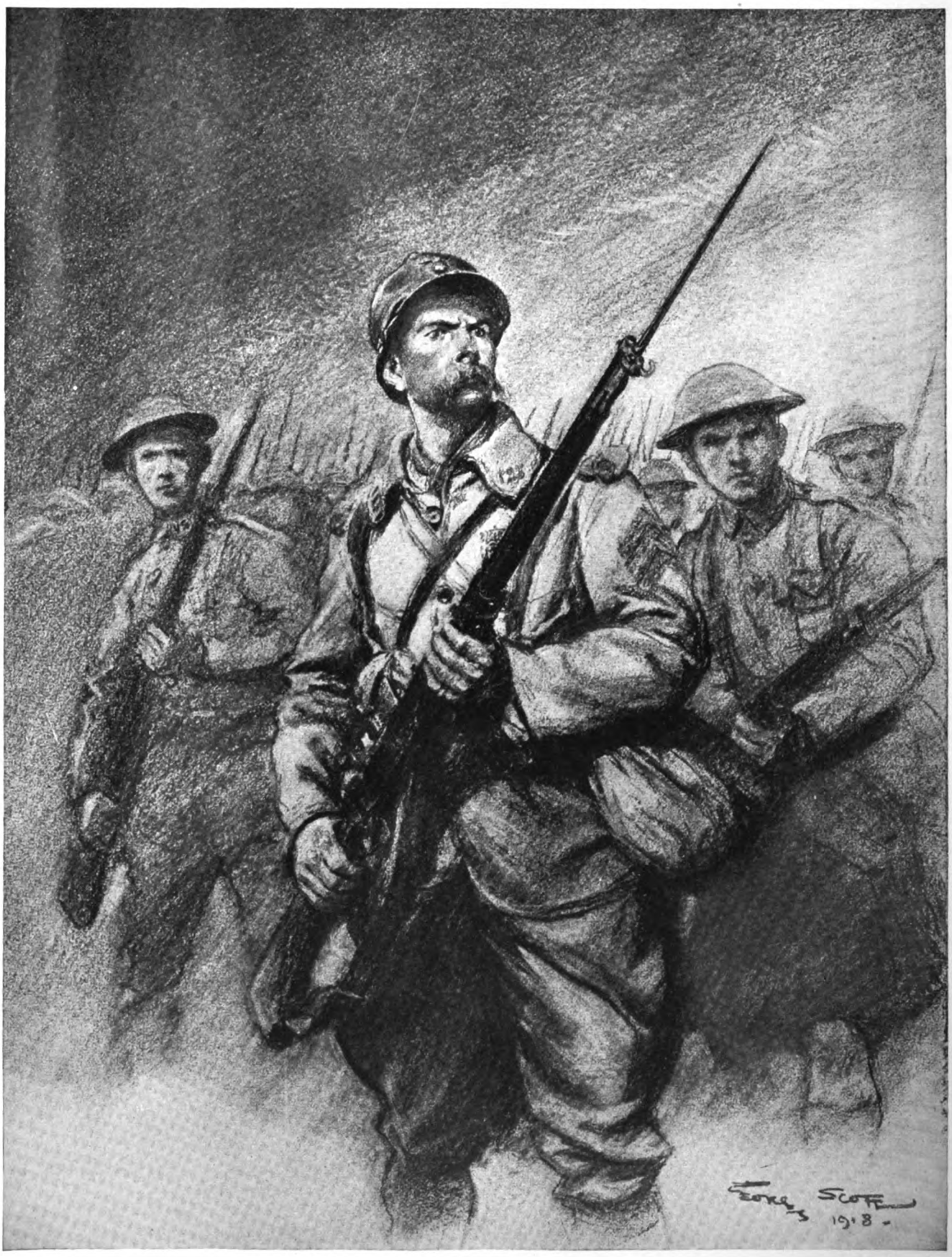

SOLDIERS OF FOCH

Under the supreme command of General Foch are the armies of all the Allies fighting shoulder to shoulder in a common cause—to beat the Hun.

(*L'Illustration*, April 6, 1918: from a drawing by Georges Scott)

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The TELEPHONE REVIEW
New York June 1918

J. D. NEWMAN, EDITOR
15 DEY STREET
Vol. IX NEW YORK No. 6

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
U. N. BETHELL, PRESIDENT
WALTER BROWN, SECRETARY-TREASURER

Conservation A Patriotic Duty

By Theodore N. Vail

THIS is a time when conservation is a prime duty. The country, to do its part in the great struggle for the world's liberty, needs not only money, but material and man power. These things it is a patriotic duty to save.

The Telephone Company, to perform its duty, must operate its plant at the highest efficiency so as to avoid as far as possible further use of money and material and labor in the construction, maintenance, and operation of plant, and still give the service which is so important a factor in the nation's operating machinery.

Each officer and employee, in doing his best for the Company and saving for it, is doing his best for the nation, and he is doing his best for himself. To the extent that any individual increases his efficiency, he increases his value, and, moreover, the opportunity for increases in pay lies only in increased revenue or decreased expenses. To the extent that the value and the power to reward it are increased, the reward is increased.

WE are sure the words of Mr. Vail printed above will find a ready and hearty response in the efforts of every employee of the New York Telephone Company.

Mr. Bethell said, in bidding goodbye to the Signal Corps men at Camp Vail last summer, just before they sailed for France: "No problem has ever arisen that has been too serious to submit to the Eastern Group for solution, and we have always come off victorious."

Here is a call in which we must not fail. No need to emphasize what Mr. Vail has written. It only remains for us to translate it into action. He states the case frankly and clearly. Let each of us look about us to see what we can save,—save in time, for time is money; save in material, for material is money,—and, besides, it is hard to get; save in "man-power," for we all know we can do a little bit more than we have been doing,—every one can always do that when there is a purpose and an incentive; save by doing our work a little bit better, so as to cut down the expense of supervision, inspection, maintenance,—everything.

We know our duty and our ability. Our duty is not only to our company, —it is also to our country, to our boys who have gone to France and on the ships at sea to fight for us, and to our Allies. We cannot fail them. Our ability is our own to use to the utmost limit in doing our duty. Others haven't our ability to do the things we are doing, and it isn't their duty,—it is ours,—to do them.

Let us wake ourselves up suddenly, —the minute we read what Mr. Vail has written, and begin right away to show what we can do for our company and our country, just as he asks us to do. We trust him; let us show he can absolutely trust us.

Liberty Bells

GENERAL PERSHING visited the tomb of Lafayette soon after his arrival in France, and, addressing the spirit of the immortal friend of Washington and champion of liberty in true soldierly fashion, reported: "Lafayette, here we are!" His army, it is true, was but small, but on the soil of France had at last arrived the Stars and Stripes borne aloft by the proud heralds of a mighty host that was to follow from the land to which the noble Frenchman had dedicated his life and fortune in its fight for freedom, 140 years ago.

On April 24, 1777, after escaping from his country which sought to detain him, Lafayette landed at Georgetown, South Carolina, with eleven companions, to offer his services to the colonies, and it was largely through his personal efforts that France, nearly two years later, was induced to send land forces and a fleet to the aid of the Americans.

Fifty thousand Americans had expatriated themselves, and were fighting with the British and French armies in 1917, when the United States entered the war, nearly two and a half years after the Germans invaded France and menaced the civilization of the world with its butchery and "kultur."

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A million men—five million—or as many more as are necessary, will be sent to France to keep up the fight until it is won.

Our front cover design recalls the historic past, and contrasts the primitive means of communication which existed in those days with the boundless transmission of intelligence afforded by the Bell System and the telephone to-day. It is appropriate, as coming just before Independence Day, July 4, and the idea suggests itself that in years to come the Blue Bell will take its place beside the Independence Bell, the one as an object of patriotic pride and reverence, the other as an emblem of universal service.

The design was conceived and drawn by Mr. F. J. Elmiger, of the General Commercial Engineering Department.

"They Went With Songs to Battle"

THE romance and thrill of war still exist, despite asseverations to the contrary on all sides. A proof of it is in the reports of how our boys in France received the news that they were to participate in the Big Drive.

Secretary Baker, when he returned, told of the joy and exultation with which they heard that General Pershing had offered the American forces to General Foch, saying "All we have is yours." "The boys received the information that they should prepare for duty at the front," he said, "with the greatest enthusiasm; one regiment of engineers ordered out cheered so loudly that you could hear them over the telephone." It is for such men that we should do our best over here.

"If we do not back them up, we are not slackers; slackers is too polite a word,—we are murderers!" to quote Mrs. August Belmont, upon returning from France, in an address to the Merchant's Association of New York, at its Red Cross Luncheon.

Weed That Garden!

DON'T forget that War Garden that you planted! Now is the time to get busy, and weed and hoe, hoe and weed, until your vegetables begin to sprout and grow. Think of the fun you are going to have eating them, and the pride and satisfaction with which you will display them to the neighbors!

It's a strange thing, not explained entirely by science, that vegetables grown in your own garden are not ordinary vegetables at all, but have a special, delectable flavor that can never be found in the bartered product.

And think of the splendid exercise you can get in working in your garden! Why, many a man and woman pays good money to be made to exercise, or to a doctor, as a penalty for not doing so.

Therefore, if you don't want those bugs to eat your vegetables, or the sun to dry them up, get busy, and "stir up the land," and use your garden hose, too!

Harry E. Wickham

THE death of Harry E. Wickham, formerly of the Plant Department, New Jersey Division, adds another silver star,—the fourth, on the service flag of the New York Telephone Company.

Mr. Wickham was killed May 6, in an accident in Des Moines which occurred while he was in the performance of his military duty as a member of the 404th Telegraph Battalion, National Army. His company is composed of telephone men from our New Jersey Division, and the battalion is under the command of Major Carroll Badeau, of our Engineering Department. The following letter from Major Badeau describes the circumstances surrounding Mr. Wickham's death, and pays a high tribute to him as a soldier:

Harry E. Wickham

It has developed, after thorough investigation, that Harry E. Wickham was hit by a bicycle while in Des Moines and thrown to the street in such a way that his skull was badly fractured, and he was beyond all medical aid when brought to the hospital at camp about an hour and a half after the accident. He had, however, in the meantime been well taken care of by a doctor in Des Moines. We are very sorry to lose him in this, what seems to us, needless way, for he was a good soldier and had been, almost since our station here at this camp, assigned as a motorcycle messenger, in which capacity he had been doing excellent work. His body has been sent home in charge of Sergeant Francis Oliver, one of the former New Jersey Plant employees.

Miss Phoebe F. Squier

MISS PHOEBE F. SQUIER, Elizabeth chief operator, died April 29, at the Rahway Hospital, Rahway, N. J., following an operation for acute appendicitis.

Miss Squier was engaged by the Telephone Company in February, 1893, as an operator at the old Seventy-ninth Street Office, New York.

October, 1893, she was transferred to the Eighteenth Street Office.

November, 1897, she was made a supervisor at the Eighteenth Street Office.

In March, 1906, she was transferred to the New Jersey division as acting chief operator of the Newark School.

In November, 1906, she was made chief operator of the Newark School.

In February, 1909, she was made chief operator of the Waverly Office.

September, 1909, she was made chief operator of the Market Office.

October, 1910, she was sent to the Hudson division as chief operator of Albany Main.

In February, 1913, she was chief operator of Asbury Park.

Miss Phoebe F. Squier

October, 1913, she was chief operator at Elizabeth. Miss Squier was also supervising chief operator of Metuchen, Cranford, and Woodbridge.

In 1915, Miss Squier won a popularity contest given by the Elizabeth *Daily Journal* for the most popular business woman in this vicinity, and she was sent to the Pacific Coast to the Exposition being held there at that time.

Such a splendid record is its own proud tribute to the woman who devoted herself in the truest and highest spirit of service and friendship to the company and the public. The unusual scope of her activities brought her in touch with a very large number of her business associates, all of whom will remember her with pleasure and miss her sadly. As one of the operators in Elizabeth said, in speaking of her, "She was a wonderful woman."

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Mr. Vail's Reminiscences

President of the Bell System Tells Personal Recollections of Thirty Years Ago, Brought to Mind By Payment of $2,000,000 Bonds Issued When President of the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1888

PAYING off of the outstanding balance of the $2,000,000 issue of bonds made by the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1888, brings back certain recollections of the beginning of the New York Telephone Company.

In the winter of 1876 and 1877, Mr. Gardner G. Hubbard, acting for Mr. Bell, gave Hilborn L. Roosevelt and Charles A. Cheever a license for all purposes under the Bell telephone patents for New York City and a very considerable surrounding territory. This firm did little toward developing the business beyond leasing a few private-line instruments—at that time the principal business for the telephone.

Introduction of telephone exchanges may be said to have commenced in 1877. It was difficult to get people who had money to become interested. It is a curious fact that the first development of the telephone business was almost entirely made by the younger people, optimistic, ambitious of success, hopeful, but with small capital. They capitalized their optimism, and in this way the beginning of the introduction of the telephone exchange was very largely in the smaller places. It was exceedingly difficut to get money for the larger places.

Telephone Rights of New York Sold for $18,000

IN the spring of 1878, however, there was got together a small group of people, none of them with large capital, who organized the Bell Telephone Company of New York, which received from the parent Bell Company a license for New York City and thirty-three miles radius, Roosevelt and Cheever having surrendered their license and some telephone property in consideration of, if my recollection is right, $18,000. *The telephone rights of New York for $18,000!*

The capital of the new company was $100,000, $60,000 preferred, and $40,000 common. The $40,000 common was given to the parent Bell Company for its license, and the $60,000 preferred was sold in small blocks. Among the purchasers were: R. C. Jackson, Superintendent of Railway Mail Service; H. G. Pearson, Assistant Postmaster of New York, son-in-law of Postmaster-General Thomas L. James; John D. Harrison, of Newark, New Jersey; A. S. Dodd and Wm. H. Wolverton, of Dodd's Express and the New York Transfer Company, and Edwin Holmes, the father of the burglar alarm.

The first telephone exchange was started in the central office of the Burglar Alarm Company at 518 Broadway, somewhere about Houston Street, and Mr. Holmes was the first manager of the Telephone Company.

The $60,000, as may be imagined, did not go very far in New York. In the summer of 1879, money began to be very scarce and a mortgage of $100,000 was authorized. It was easy enough to make the mortgage and get

On May 1, 1918, the New York Telephone Company redeemed $2,000,000 of bonds issued in 1888 by the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company

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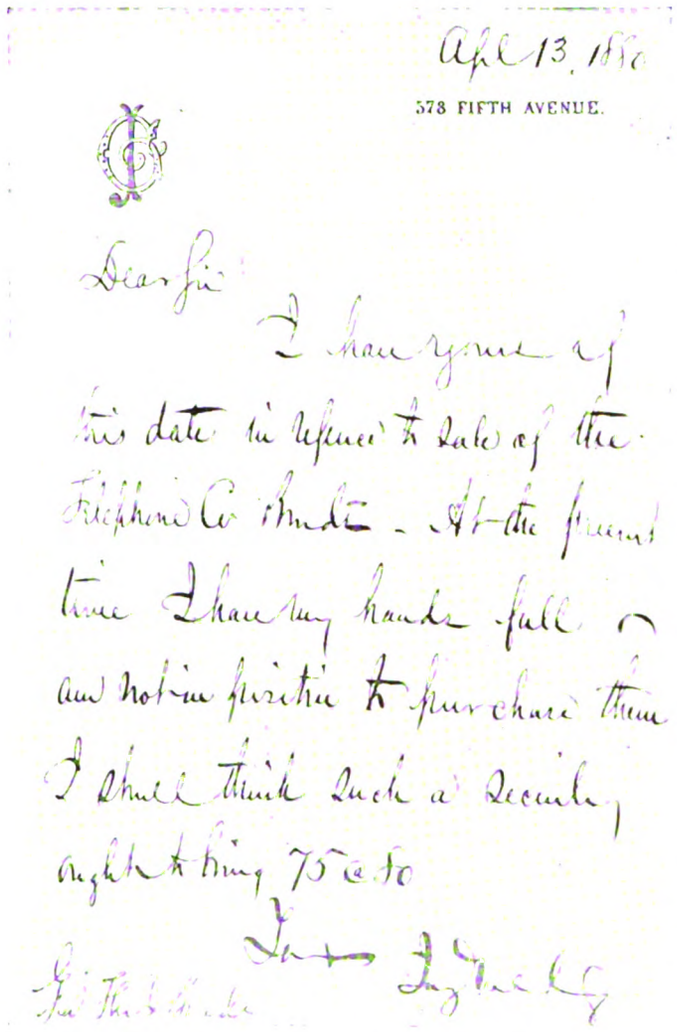

Apl 13, 1880

578 FIFTH AVENUE.

Dear Sir

I have yours of this date in reference to sale of the Telephone Co Bonds. At the present time I have my hands full and am not in position to purchase them. I should think such a security ought to bring 75 @ 80

Yours Jay Gould

Autograph letter from Jay Gould declining to buy telephone bonds in 1880

it authorized by the shareholders, but it was quite a different matter selling the bonds. Negotiations were had with various parties. Among others was Jay Gould. Only recently an autographed letter turned up at a sale of manuscripts, autographs, et cetera, which said:

DEAR SIR:

I have yours of this date in reference to sale of the Telephone Company bonds. At the present time I have my hands full and am not in a position to purchase them. I should think such a security ought to bring $75 to $80.

Yours, et cetera,

JAY GOULD.

Mr. Jay Gould was not at that time president of the Western Union Telegraph Company. The Vanderbilts were still in control.

These bonds were sold to Hatch & Foote at 75%.

A Competitor Enters the Field

IN the meantime the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company which was a subsidiary of the Western Union, operating private telegraph lines, stock-tickers, et cetera, finding that its private line business was being very largely destroyed by the telephone exchange business and by the use of telephones instead of telegraph instruments on private lines, started the telephone business in New York and other parts of the country, although the Western Union had spurned the opportunity and refused to consider the purchase of the telephone patents only a couple of years before for a relatively small sum.

In the spring of 1878, the Gold and Stock Company brought out the Edison carbon button transmitter founded on the principles explained in the Bell patent. The Bell Company at that time was using the old magneto telephone, a very unsatisfactory machine, and for a while the Gold and Stock Company had the Bell Company at a great disadvantage in the development of the exchanges. The carbon button transmitter was subordinate to the Bell patents, as afterwards admitted.

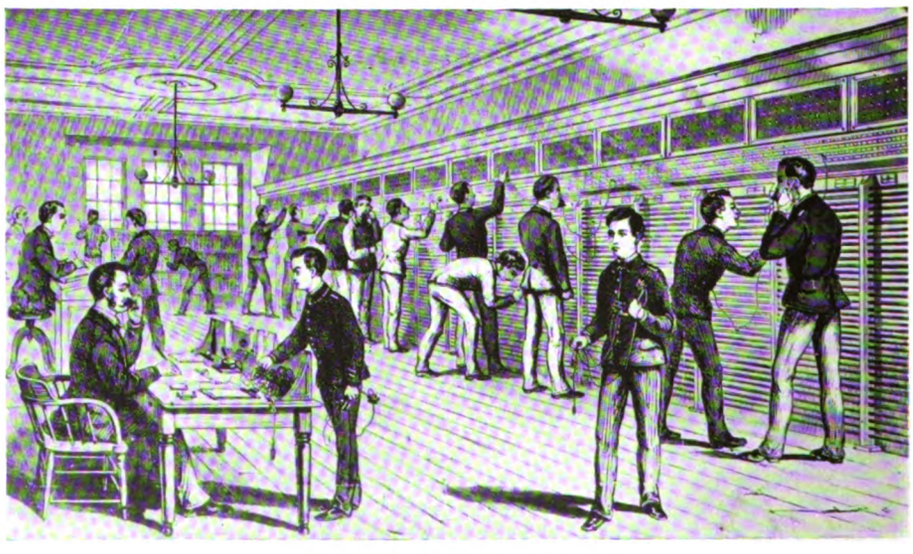
In the fall of 1878, however, the Blake transmitter was brought out by the Bell Company,—a much more efficient and useful instrument than any other transmitter that had so far been produced. This immediately gave the Bell Company an advantage, not only in New York, but all over the country, over the telephone companies which were being organized by the Gold and Stock Company under the auspices of the Western Union Company.

The Business Firmly Established

THE amount of money required for the development in New York was so great, and the contest with the Gold and Stock Company was so bitter, that the original incorporators did not have the financial ability to promote the business as it should have been promoted, and the consequence was that in 1879, the original incorporators sold their interests to the American Bell Telephone Company, the successor of the Bell Company which granted the license.

So great was this advantage over the Gold and Stock Company and the Western Union Company, that in the summer of 1879, the Western Union suggested negotiating for a settlement. These negotiations took place between the Bell and the Western Union Companies and resulted in the agreement of November, 1879, under which the Western Union retired from the telephone business. From this agreement, however, the New York territory was excepted, as the Gold and Stock Company had a much larger investment in New York, relatively, than in any other part of the country.

Negotiations, however, immediately followed for the combination of the two interests in New York, and in May, 1880, the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company was



The Cortlandt Exchange in 1880

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formed with a capital of $1,000,000, of which the Gold and Stock Company took $400,000 and the Bell Company of New York $600,000, at par, out of which the Bell Company and the Gold and Stock Company were paid for their respective properties at appraised valuation. This left a few hundred thousand dollars in the treasury of the company to be used for development.

The history of the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company from that time was one of uninterrupted growth and progress. In 1896 it was merged into the New York Telephone Company by exchange of stock, and in 1909 the Gold and Stock Company, or the Western Union, sold its interest in the successor company to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. THEO. N. VAIL.

Operators who represented the telephone industry in the Red Cross parade at Binghamton, Sunday, May 19. For the first time many people obtained a slight idea of the large organization which is required to provide efficient service in the local system *(Courtesy of Binghamton Press)*

Binghamton Operators March in Sunday Red Cross Parade

WHEN the question of "Where were you in the Red Cross Drive?" comes up, Binghamton can answer "Present," and can show as evidence the fact that the whole town,—men, women, and children, turned out on Sunday, May 19, to show its patriotism, and give its support to the cause that each of us has adopted as our own.

One feature of the parade that attracted everyone was the division formed by the young women telephone operators, "neat and dignified in appearance, each carrying her transmitter," as the *Binghamton Press* says. Strange, you may say, that we never saw telephone operators in a parade before. Not so strange, seeing that parades are not usually held on Sunday,—a thing which excludes the possibility of operators' participating in such an event.

At any rate, there they were, marching along, their white shirtwaists and dark skirts forming a pleasing and uniform effect, and their transmitters reminding all the spectators that they were civilian soldiers, representing the vast body of workers who are keeping up communication, both at home and abroad. Theirs was a silent, but extraordinarily powerful appeal to all to support not only the Red Cross, which is doing such incomparable work, but also every branch of service which in any way contributes to the winning of the war.

The sight of these seventy-five Binghamton telephone operators brought home forcibly to the Binghamton people the realization of the invaluable war aid that they and their associates in the Bell System are giving throughout the length and breadth of the United States, in making a unit of the nation.

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Colonel Carty Receives Edison Medal

THAT the telephone has at last come into its own was a statement made by E. W. Rice, Jr., president of the American institute of Electrical Engineers, in delivering the Edison Medal to Colonel J. J. Carty, and in his speech accepting the medal, Colonel Carty said that the things that have been accomplished since the war broke out, and which are military secrets that cannot be revealed, are as wonderful and important as any of the marvelous things that have been done in the past.

"A Great Genius"

SPEAKER after speaker acclaimed Colonel Carty as a great genius who had helped to make this possible. In his address, Dr. Michael I. Pupin said:

"When I speak of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and its splendid achievements in telephony, I always think of John J. Carty." Referring to his first meeting with Colonel Carty nearly thirty years ago, Dr. Pupin said: "He always looked ahead like a prophet, and was always ready to speak of the telephone work to come. At that time telephone engineering was mostly concerned with short distance work, but Carty always talked of long distance work. He looked twenty and thirty years ahead, and it was this prophetic vision of his, used in guiding the engineers under him, that has produced the marvelous telephone achievements which are now common knowledge."

President Rice paid a glowing tribute to Colonel Carty in presenting the medal and diploma, concluding in these words:

"The Edison Medal Committee has awarded you this medal and this diploma in recognition of your work in the science and the art of telephone engineering. It gives me great pleasure and great honor to present them to you in the name and in behalf of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. We all know you greatly merit both the medal and the diploma."

Col. Carty Honors Associates

BUT Colonel Carty refused to accept the encomiums for himself alone; he characteristically insisted upon sharing them with his associates, saying in his speech, "A great deal of credit has been given to me to-night, but I shed that credit over the entire Bell System, where it belongs." Again he said, "Whatever I have been able to accomplish has been due to the aid and assistance rendered to me by men associated with me in the Bell System."

To be awarded the Edison Medal is the highest honor that can be conferred upon an American engineer. The award is not made upon the basis of the candidate's estimate of himself, but represents the opinion of the great body of American scientists as to his eminence and worth in the profession.

Colonel J. J. Carty

Every one of the happy family of the Bell System will read with pride and a greater feeling of loyalty to the organization the speech of acceptance made by Colonel Carty, but first some of the allusions which would not be understood should be explained.

In his address, Dr. Pupin humorously referred to Colonel Carty and himself as both being of Celtic origin, for, he said, Colonel Carty is Irish and he is Serbian, and the Serbians are called the Irish of the Balkans,—therefore, they are both Celts!

Speech of Colonel J. J. Carty

AFTER such an ovation, and such a magnanimous and generous introduction, it is almost impossible for me to find words adequately to express my feelings. I have been very much interested in learning a secret tonight from Dr. Pupin. I had always wondered about that "Michael" part of it. That name, with his most generous praise, seems to me conclusive evidence that many of his ancestors have kissed a certain stone in a certain castle.

On an occasion of this kind, it would seem to be the privilege of the speaker to take all the credit that belongs to everybody else and heap it upon the medalist. You all know that is the proper thing to do and you make allowances for him. You notice how easily he slipped out of that loading coil business. I dare say that nine-tenths of the people here tonight believe I was responsible for that great invention of his. In fact, I am quite sure that if Dr. Bell had not been here, he would have lost the honor of inventing the telephone. But you know what is in Dr. Pupin's heart. He wishes to say a great thing for telephone men and for the telephone art, and I am with him on that. I will talk about telephone men and the telephone art as long as anybody will listen to me.

TELEPHONE ART PURELY AMERICAN

Now, concerning the telephone art, it is very proper to speak of it here, before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and before so many of the representatives of the Bell System, before the inventor of the telephone, and before officers of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. The telephone art is an American art. It was not imported from Europe. It was originated here in America by an ex-president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, who is here on the platform now. Beginning with Dr. Bell, and at a time where there were no electrical engineers, and when our Institute did not even exist, every substantial improvement in the telephone system has been made here in America, and has been adopted and put into use by the Bell System, practically all of whom, Dr. Bell, Mr. Vail, Mr. Bethell, and hundreds of others, were all members of this Institute. I think there is no other society in the world of whom it can be said that it has originated, created, and developed an entire art, and such a wonderful art! That can be said of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and I am proud to be able to say it here to-night.

Now, a great deal of credit has been given to me, but I shed that credit over the entire Bell System, where it belongs. In the beginning there was no telephone engineering. There were no telephone engineers. We had Dr.

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Bell, who was the first telephone scientist, and Mr. Watson, who was the first telephone engineer. The men who were in charge of the Bell System then, men of great foresight, Mr. Vail and his colleagues, sought the advice of scientific men to be found only in the universities. Then they put engineers to work after these men and thus they formed, forty years ago, a combination of scientific minds and engineering talent, which is now becoming recognized as necessary to the success of all large undertakings.

The men behind the Bell System were the ones who were the pioneers in that method of research, and whatever I have been able to accomplish has been due to the aid and assistance that has been rendered to me by these men and by those that have been associated with me in the Bell System. Most of them, as I said before, have been or are now members of this Institute. I think I can say, without qualification that my company, the Bell System, has never refused me any request which I have ever made, for a man or for a dollar for research. Under such circumstances, it is only natural that important results should have been obtained.

If it had not been for the wonderful coöperation of all these men, none of these results, which we hear about tonight, could possibly have been accomplished. So, interpreting Dr. Pupin's praise in those terms as he really meant it,—spreading it out over the entire Bell System and among the members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers—in that respect, and with that interpretation, I will be glad to accept these encomiums on behalf of my colleagues, and only in that way.

KEYNOTE FOR COMING YEARS IS "WAR"

Your president-elect, Professor Adams, has sounded the keynote for the coming year. We must not talk of peace. Our business at this particular time is war. You all know what has been achieved by the telephone engineers, scientists, and administrators here in America. While a great deal is known about the telephone art in time of peace, not so much is known about it in time of war.

It is a rather interesting coincidence, but it happens that here on the platform are seated my two chiefs, Mr. U. N. Bethell, under whom I have the great honor to serve in my civilian capacity, and Major General Squier, Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army. To those two men, more than to anyone else, belongs the credit for what the telephone is doing and will do in winning this war. At a time when it seemed that America was not going into the war, at a time when we were discussing preparedness, General Squier—not then, at that time, Chief Signal Officer, but looking far ahead, as is his custom—and, gentlemen, my judgment is that he looks straight ahead and his vision is true, saw that the Signal Corps, as then constituted, was far too small and inadequate, as were indeed all other departments of the Army, to cope with the new situation. He came to me to ascertain what could be done in the formation of a reserve of men from the Bell System, who would volunteer and be ready to go if this country should ever get into the war. I took General Squier at once to Mr. Bethell, and we three had a conference, at which it was agreed that the Bell System would furnish many thousands of men for this reserve, and thereupon was started the organization of the Signal Corps Reserve. Battalions were formed all over the United States, and when the war broke out twelve battalions of Bell Telephone men were ready to take the field.

PATRIOTIC EFFECT

Unless we had had the generous, far-sighted, and patriotic action of Mr. Bethell, backed up by the Board of Directors on the one hand, and that of General Squier on the other, when General Pershing sailed he would have been deficient in his Signal Corps personnel. As it was, young men, going about their daily occupation as telephone engineers, suddenly received the word, and on the same ship, with General Pershing's own personal party, went along some of these young men as officers in the Signal Corps.

Altogether there were more than twelve of these battalions formed, and all of them are in France, doing wonderful work—work which will form a very important part of the history of this war.

I might go on and tell you of many other plans which General Squier laid out, with the assistance of Mr. Bethell and myself. Many of these are still military secrets, but I can assure you

The Edison Medal awarded to Colonel J. J. Carty. The highest honor that can be conferred upon an American engineer

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that the work that has been done under General Squier in war telephony is quite as wonderful, and the results will prove to be just as marvelous, as the most wonderful exhibition that you have ever witnessed of the peace telephone system.

It was not only in the Signal Corps under General Squier that this idea of the Bell System's being ready for war was developed, but in the Navy as well, under Secretary Daniels, important work was accomplished. It was on May 6, 7, and 8, 1916, that the Navy ordered the mobilization of the telephone and telegraph resources of the Bell System. During this entire period no method of communication was employed except that furnished by the Bell System.

BELL SYSTEM WAS PREPARED

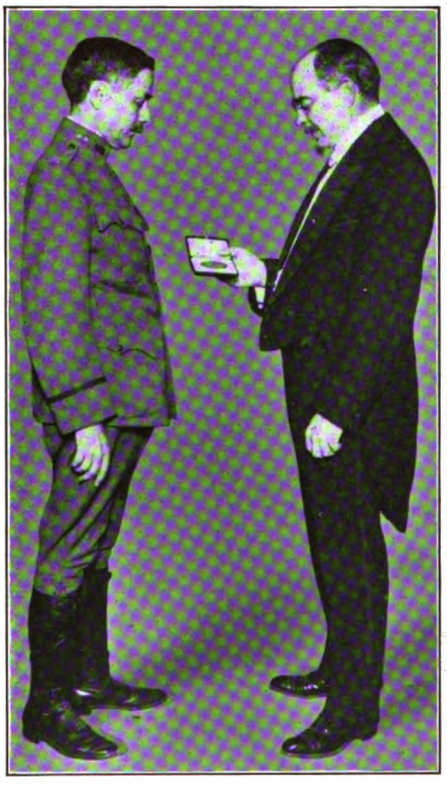
To show how thoroughly prepared the Bell System was, I might say that during these three days, Admiral Benson picked up the telephone and talked to the extreme Northwestern part of the United States,—to Seattle. He also talked to Mare Island, San Diego, then across to the mouth of the Mississippi,—to Algiers, then to Pensacola (Key West was not in the Bell System then, but it is now). Next he talked with the Charleston and Norfolk navy yards, Washington, Brooklyn, and Boston, as well as the Portsmouth Navy Yard, and finally back to the Great Lakes,—making a ring around the United States. He called up, in quick succession, every one of these Naval stations, giving orders and receiving information by word of mouth. Finally a message was sent by Admiral Benson to the battleship New Hampshire, at Hampton Roads, by wireless telephone, ordering the captain of that ship to proceed to sea and report his position every hour by telephone, which he did. That is the first time in our Navy, or in any other navy, that this has been done.

It is also rather interesting to know that Mrs. Chandler talked to her husband, she being in her home and he on the bridge of his ship fifty miles at sea. This was a romantic incident not planned for the mobilization, but very much appreciated by every one.

Captain Bennett, in command of the Mare Island Navy Yard in California, talked by means of the transcontinental telephone wires to the radio tower at Arlington, Va., and thence by radio telephone to Captain Chandler at sea on the bridge of the New Hampshire, during a storm in the Atlantic Ocean. Captain Chandler and Captain Bennett, one on the Pacific Coast and the other out on the Atlantic Ocean, talked with each other by telephone and recognized each other's voice.

NAVY MOBILIZED BY TELEPHONE

When the war broke out, the Navy had a mobilization plan ready, and within one hour after the word was given, the men of the Bell System, in coöperation with the Navy, were moving in all parts of the United States, and the system which worked so successfully before the mobilization, went into immediate effect, though in greatly augmented form, proved of wonderful service to the Navy. Plans that General Squier had worked out also went into successful operation, and the advantages of



Colonel Carty receiving the Edison Medal from President Rice

his foresight, as well as the planning of these gentlemen [pointing to General Squier and Mr. Bethell], are becoming more and more apparent, and are going to be of the utmost importance in winning this great war.

I wish that I could take up your time long enough to tell you about the wonderful work of the many individuals that compose the Engineering Department, the scientific department of the Bell System and the Western Electric Company, because that is the only part with which I have to do. While it is an important matter here to technical men, to engineers, it is by no means the "whole works," as one would think to hear our good friend Dr. Pupin tell about it to-night. This wonderful organization consists of a personnel of more than 200,000 men and women. I might mention here that 34,000 are of draft age, with 15,000 in Class 1, and upward of 8,000 of them are already in the war. It would be more correct to say that these 8,000 are in the Army or the Navy, for the whole 200,000,—the entire Bell System,—are in the war, and in it to win, all doing their bit day or night, whether in uniform or not.

The Engineering Department numerically is but a small fraction of this vast total, and while we do an important work, our work would be useless were it not for the fact that it is matched by the efforts of other departments in many other interesting and vitally important ways. It would be of absolutely no value unless all of our activities were coördinated and aided by such men as Mr. Bethell, active Senior Vice-President, by Mr. Vail and his distinguished associates among the vice-presidents and on the boards of directors. Therefore, these results that have been obtained are the results achieved by a great institution —an institution which has been farsighted, and has recognized the importance of science and scientists, of engineers, administrators, business men, and financiers. To these men, those who have supported our engineers and scientists, we must give all the credit, because if they had not taken the broad view they did, none of these results could have been possible. We could not say, as we now can say, that the art of telephony is an American art, and that although all the great nations of the world, except this country, have for many years been engaged in the telephone business, not one of those governments has contributed a single substantial factor to the outcome.

All improvement has been done right here in America, by men at some time or other, in some way, associated with this Institute and with this wonderful Bell System.

NO HUNS, BUT ALL TRUE AMERICANS

We hear a great deal about the German scientist and the wonderful things he has done and has been planning. Many years ago, when German Kultur was interpreted by many to mean culture, it was suggested to me that we should send to Germany to get some of the Herr Doctors to teach us high science. I always opposed that, believing that the mind of the Yankee boy, when turned to scientific problems, surely would outdistance the German, and the young men who have collaborated with me all these years are graduates of over one hundred universities, all here in America.

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When at our entrance into the war there was a searching of hearts and a census taking, to find out who was loyal and who was to be suspected, I know that you will be pleased to hear that among all these scientists and all these engineers, all working in the Bell System all over the United States, we were not able to find a single Hun. They were all true Americans to the core. The Bell System is 100 per cent. American.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I do not feel that I should take up your time with any further remarks, and I will close by saying how very grateful indeed I am to receive this great honor. I hope that you will make due allowance for all that my fellow-countryman here (Dr. Pupin) has said about me, and that you will understand also the magnificent work which has been accomplished by him and by the wonderful young American engineers, and scientists of the Bell System.

Noted Persons Present

THE occasion on which this presentation took place was the regular annual meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, held in the large auditorium of the United Engineering Societies Building in New York, May 17. There were more than one thousand men and women present, including distinguished members of the Institute, members of the Telephone Society of New York, and other guests. On the platform were Dr. Alexander Graham Bell (who was not on the program, but who, when called on, made a graceful speech in compliment to Colonel Carty), Mr. U. N. Bethell; Professor A. E. Kennelly, chairman of the 1917 Edison Medal Committee, and professor of Electrical Engineering at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Michael I. Pupin, inventor of the Pupin Loading Coil and professor of Electrical Engineering, Columbia University; J.L. Lardner, of the J. G. White Company; Professor Comfort Adams, professor of Electrical Engineering at Harvard University and the Massachusets Institute of Technology, the newly elected president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; F. M. Herr, president of the Westinghouse Electric Company; Bancroft Gherardi, engineer of plant, American Telephone and Telegraph Company; Major General George O. Squier, U. S. A.; E. W. Rice, Jr., the retiring president, and F. L. Hutchinson, the secretary of the Institute.

In the audience were Mrs. Carty and a number of friends who occupied reserved seats.

The eight Edison medalists are as follows: Elihu Thomson, Frank J. Sprague, George Westinghouse, William Stanley, Charles F. Brush, Alexander Graham Bell, Nikola Tesla, and J. J. Carty.

Telephone Society

Central Section

THE Central Section of the Telephone Society of New York met on May 14, and enjoyed an evening that was unique in the variety of its entertainment. From musical selections the program skipped to a discussion of Russia, potato raising, and finally ended in a regular business meeting. Patriotism was the first thought of the assembly, for the meeting opened with the spirited singing of "America." Mr. Pitcher, of the Traffic Department, Syracuse, N. Y., and also the Auburn quartet, sang several delightful songs.

Mr. L. D. Layton read various articles that appeared in the *Western Electric News*, describing the present conditions in Russia.

A subject of timely interest that held the attention of all the would-be farmers for Mr. Hoover, was, "How to Raise Potatoes," discussed by Mr. Teall, of the Onondaga County Farm Bureau.

The Membership Committee reported the work of the year and stated that sixty-one new members had been elected to membership and two had been transferred from other ditsricts.

The Nominating Committee reported the following names for office for the coming year, and the candidates were unanimously elected: J. P. Bernard, Chairman; A. B. Thacher, Vice-Chairman; R. B. Smtih, Secretary-Treasurer; E. E. Lines, Chairman Paper and Meetings Committee; Executive Committee: A. M. Doyle, Syracuse; R. M. Gillespie, Syracuse; W. W. Doolittle, Binghamton; J. E. Day, Elmira; W. J. Hartnett, Utica.

Western Section

MEMBERS of the Telephone Society from Plant, Traffic, Accounting, and Commercial Departments greeted Mr. J. S. McCulloh on his appearance before the Western Section in the ballroom of the Hotel Statler on Thursday, April 25.

Mr. McCulloh was billed as the man who "needs no introduction," and the smiles and handshakes given him by hundreds of Telephone Society members fulfilled the description perfectly.

Mr. McCulloh's subject was, "Telephone Work Over Here in Our First Year of War."

Before Mr. McCulloh's address, the following officers of the Telephone Society were elected for next year:

Chairman, A. R. Roberts; Vice-Chairman, J. V. Graff; Secretary-Treasurer, P. W. Helffenstein. Executive Committee: R. J. Wollmuth, New York Telephone Company; H. A. Cannon, New York Telephone Company; H. J. Schroll, New York Telephone Company; P. McH. Wygant, American Telephone and Telegraph Company; G. A. Schneider, Western Electric Company; F. C. Saunders, Connecting Companies.

Wire Chief Estes, of Charlotte, led the members in singing patriotic songs. The new film, "The Whispering Wires of War," showing the Signal Corps on the Western front, was an additional feature.

Promotion

Promotion comes to him who sticks
Unto his work and never kicks,
Who watches neither clock nor sun
To tell him when his task is done,
Who toils not by a stated chart,
Defining to a jot his part,
But gladly does a little more
Than he's remunerated for.
The man in factory or shop
Who rises quickly to the top
Is he who gives what can't be bought:
Intelligent and careful thought.

No one can say just when begins
The service that promotion wins.
Or when it ends; 'tis not defined
By certain hours or any kind
Of system that has been devised.
Merit cannot be systemized.
It is at work when it's at play,
It serves each minute of the day;
'Tis always at its post, to see
New ways of help and use to be.
Merit from duty never slinks;
Its cardinal virtue is—it thinks!

Promotion comes to him who tries
Not solely for a selfish prize,
But day by day and year by year
Holds his employer's interests dear,
Who measures not by what he earns
The sum of labor he returns,
Nor counts his day of toiling through,
Till he's done all that he can do.
His strength is not of muscle bred,
But of the heart and of the head.
The man who would the top attain
Must demonstrate he has a brain.

EDGAR A. GUEST.

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The first Unit of Telephone Operators trained for foreign service by the Bell System. Photograph taken in France, where they have won the praise of Secretary of War Baker for their efficiency *(Committee on Public Information)*

How Our Telephone Operators Were Received "Over There"

THE third detachment of telephone operators to serve under General Pershing in France has arrived safely, according to a cable received from "Over There" on May 9. As you can imagine, they are welcomed with open arms by their comrades who preceded them, and no doubt have already accustomed themselves to their new quarters and duties.

In the *Stars and Stripes*, the official paper of the American Expeditionary Force, and edited weekly in Paris, we find an account of the reception accorded the telephone operators' units that have arrived in France. Behold their announcement!

HELLO GIRLS HERE IN REAL ARMY DUDS

Signal Corps Colors Adorn Hats of New Bi-lingual Wire Experts

THEY HAVE SERGEANTS TOO

Company of 33 Regulars Represents Half of States of Union

Uncle Sam Presents "Hello Girls!"

A Melodious, Mirthful, Extravaganza in Three Coils, Produced for the First Time in France, under the auspices of the A. E. F. Protective and Benevolent Society for the Suppression of Huns, in the Theatre de Guerre. Performances in both French and English. Assisted by a chorus of 33—COUNT 'EM, 33—Real American Telephone girls, representing half the States in the Union, and able to get anybody's number the first time—including the Kaiser's.

Such, in brief, might well be the handbill announcement heralding the arrival in France of the vanguard of the Hello Girls' detachment, which has come here to handle switchboards, adjust switches, calm and sooth irate C. O. S.—at long distance who are trying to cut in and tell the Quartermaster just what they think of him, and to disconnect promptly any brusque and over-military persons who persist in saying Cochon!, or "———!" when they hear an undue buzzing on the line. In short, the phone girls—33, count 'em, 33—are here to take the phone-using portion of the A. E. F. by the ears, and put it in its proper place.

They arrived just the other day and like everything else that's new and interesting in the army—yes, they're in it, too—they were lined up before a Signal Corps camera and shot. Grouped about the base of a statue in a little Paris square, they presented a pleasing sight. (American girls always do.)

The ladies of the line wear a real Army costume, save that their campaign hats are dark blue and that they have shown great originality by substituting the skirt for the more conventional O. D. breeches and putts. Their hat cords, those lovely orange and white things that the Signal Corps wears (so suggestive of fillets of orange blossoms), are the real thing. So are their buttons. And they've got it on the rest of us in that they know how to sew on those buttons when they come off.

Their insignia, too, are real and terrifyingly complicated. The rank is indicated by arm bands. An Operator, First Class, wears a white brassard with a blue outline design of a telephone mouthpiece. A Supervisor, who rates with a platoon sergeant, wears the same emblem with a wreath around it. The Chief Operator, or "Top," has a wreath, a mouthpiece, and blue lightning flashes shooting out above the receiver—which is most appropriate for a "Top."

But the "Top" says those Jove-like lightning flashes don't mean anything in particular. To be sure, she will insist on discipline, if it's required, but thus far she hasn't had any occasion to let loose thunderbolts at the heads of her charges. No, the girls will not have first call at 6:15 and reveille at 6:30, the way the doughboys do. Fancy asking a hello girl to do up her hair in twice that time!

The 33 were selected after a drastic combing-out process, after a call had been sent out for 150 bi-lingual operators and

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had been answered by 1,750 applicants. All 33 are equally at home to "Voulez-vous me donner le Capitaine Blanque," and "Lemme speakta Cap'n Blank, please!" They can answer with "Oui, mon Commandant, attendez un moment," or "Yes, Major, just wait a minute, please." In short, they are capable, plus.

A bystander, who hadn't been properly introduced to the group, proffered some chewing gum and was promptly and properly squelched.

A Wonderful Experience

"I JUST have to fall back on the same old saying, 'It is going to be a wonderful experience,'" writes Elsie Hunter, one of the Telephone Operators' Unit No. 3, now safe in France. She is right. All the best things of life are those that we earn. She and the other girls in the units are giving their services to Uncle Sam and his boys, and in return they will have an experience that will be almost priceless in after life. The many pictures and associations that are theirs for the "duration of the war" will be woven into the tapestry of their life, and will serve as a background for the future.

The girls who had visited France before, find the France of to-day quite different from that of yesterday. Everything is grim business of war. The world is no longer care-free.

Miss Frances Bigelow Paine, a member of Telephone Operators' Unit No. 1, writes of her interesting trip over, and tells of how they slept in their clothes during the time in the danger zone, with portholes closed. It was more exciting than comfortable.

In one of her letters, Miss Georgette Schaer, also of the same unit, gives us a glimpse of her work in France. She says that it is on the P. B. X. order, but in the French language, of course, as they connect with French lines and order the numbers in French. She states that, though they have bombardments, a person gets used to them and takes them very indifferently! A little piece of advice also is enclosed in her letter,—which is for the girls who are studying French to practice hard on their numbers, and to practice listening and talking rapidly over the telephone.

These and many other letters have been relayed to us by friends and relatives of the girls who are serving at the war switchboards in France. All give little side-lights on the life of the operators in France. As we are all very much interested in their fortunes in France, we should appreciate receiving similar letters from time to time from others.

Miss Ester Fresnel, of New York, writes some very interesting letters of her impressions of France, and incidentally of the American Army. They are certainly most encouraging—and appreciative. The picture she draws of the conditions under which the girls are living in France is very attractive, showing, as it does, the care and forethought exercised by the United States Government in seeing that the girls are well taken care of.

All interested in the organization of these units for service in France will enjoy reading the following letters which she wrote to her parents, and which are representative of many others that have reached us:

Royal Accommodations

March 29, 1918.

DARLINGS:

For the past week or so I've been trying to write you every day, but we've been so much on the *qui vive* that it has been impossible. And now, I've so much to tell you that I know not whence to start. Anyhow, you'll be almost happy to know that I'm in France, and at the present time actually at work and settled (for the time being, anyhow).

When I first got here in France, Captain Vivian, the officer who has charge of us, most kindly allowed me to go out with Tante Jeanne. I had telephoned her and Tante Margo, in the morning, and Uncle Albert and Tante Jeanne came and got me. Then we drove to the Majestic, and went to her apartment, where she gave me the dearest souvenir to bring me good luck. This souvenir is an elephant's hair mounted in silver and in the form of a bracelet. Besides, when she called for me, she brought me some violets. After that we drove back and had dinner at a place that father is very, very fond of,—Bourbon, or something like that. Then Tante Jeanne and I had a walk and we talked, and talked, and talked, and she told me a great many nice things. . . .

Darling Mummy and Daddy, I feel as though I were growing fatter by the minute. We are accommodated royally. The house in which we live was originally procured for an Officers' Club, and appointed accordingly. Those unfortunate men, however, were forced to go to another section, and the Y. W. C. A. got this house for us. We are only eleven here, as we were separated in different sections. We sleep two in a room (I room with Suzanne Prevot), and have all conveniences. But what I want to tell you most of all is that when it comes to meals, I positively disgrace you. It is as though I were overcome by an overpowering desire to eat—eat—eat.

Needless to say, the cooking (which is French and American combined) is excellent. There is a cook, waitress, and a Mme. Chopin, a charming person who used to direct a young ladies' seminary, but who has left her aunt in charge for the present while she presides over this household. Miss Russell has charge of this establishment and acts as hostess. She is a Y. W. C. A. worker and is as pleasant as can be. She sits at one end of the table and Mme. Chopin at the other, and between both of them we are well taken care of. Our board and lodging amounts to $15 a week for each of us. I don't know yet whether our washing will be included.

Beautiful France

March 30, 1918.

HONEY BUNCHES:

In looking over my letter before handing it in to the censor, I find that I have not asked you for anything. Now, that is not natural at all—to chat with you any length of time and not want something. So I would like you to send me some popular music—we are going to have a piano and I'll probably be at it all the time. On the boat they made me play from morn until night, and no one enjoyed it more than I. If you think it best, you can send me some of my own music, but if it seems to you that it might go astray, just send me popular music which I can't get over here and I'll purchase the classics here myself.

Beginning next week, we shall all have to work all day and every day, but for the present some of us have either the afternoon or morning off. We take long walks, as any exercise we can get must be snatched at, seeing that we sit all day.

If you were only here to see the beauty of it all with me! But you know this mountainous country and can appreciate it, too, for you are here in spirit I know. Here the season is not as advanced as where we were at first,—the spring is just beginning. There are a good many pine groves here, and never in my life have I seen anything so beautiful. The hills seem like waves. There is wave after wave, as far as one can see, and the pine trees grow on the sides of the gullies they form. The air is just as pure as can be and the sky on a clear day is the bluest of blues. I have already found violets and can see all the leaves of the lily-of-the-valley coming up. It seems to grow wild here. Just think how fragrant it will be when they are all in bloom! I'll send you some blossoms and perhaps you'll be able to get a whiff of the same perfume that I shall have had. This section is so beautiful! I do hope that I'll be able to stay here. This is the general headquarters of the American Army, and every day, going to and from work, I pass the chateau where General Pershing resides. The house is ever guarded and no one stands straighter or salutes with more snap than that sentinel.

TRIBUTE TO OUR BOYS

In fact, our boys are all as fine as can be I tell you, one must come over here to appreciate them, and our very "bosom swells with pride," I tell you. They are mighty glad to see us, too, and can not do enough for us. We feel like one tremendous family. There is nothing finer, I think, than this spirit of companionship of comrades, and I'm awfully glad I came, in a way, because I never knew before how many nice people there were in the world.

I could write to you forever, but the dinner bell calls and I may not—nay I dare not ignore the command—for command it is from my tummy.

Working for Service Stripes

April 4, 1918.

DEAREST DARLINGS:

How is everything going along with you? Here it is quite one month since I have left you and I haven't received a word yet. . . .

Yesterday started out to be a wonderful, wonderful day. Unfortunately it ended up the way it has been going on since we've been here—in rain. This weather doesn't dampen our spirits any, but it produces a mud the like of which I have never previously seen. It isn't ordinary mud by any means. It's more like clay and very slippery. It never seems to dry up except on one's clothing, whence it never can be removed.

However, it lends an atmosphere, and personally I feel more of a soldier, and a hard working one at that, when muddy.

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At present we are very, very busy, as we haven't as many operators as we would like to have. When the next unit comes, we will be able to have each a day off a week —that is, if we remain here. We may be transferred to some other place, though I hope not, because I like this place a very great deal. You know yourself how lovely the Vosages section is. Not only that, but if we stay here six months or more, we will be allowed to have service stripes. We would be the only telephone girls to have any, being up to the present the only girls in the war zone besides the nurses.

Wouldn't you be proud to have your daughter coming home with several gold stripes on her sleeves? I don't know whether we would be allowed to wear them on our civilian clothes, but then, I would always have the occasion to flourish them on the Fourth of July, for then it would be the proper thing to wear my uniform and all the appendages thereof (which I hope to acquire before the war is over).

REAL MEN

Darling children, perhaps I may be home by next July, 1919—one can never tell. But when one sees our boys over here, one thinks that they would make short work of everything. They are a splendid type and certainly appear to the best advantage here. I don't know why I never really appreciated them at home as a whole. Perhaps it's because I never was able to see the men from different sections of the country. Over here the majority of the boys are from the West and the South, and now that I have had the opportunity to see them, I feel it isn't fair to judge Americans from New Yorkers. And yet foreigners are most apt to. Perhaps it is because the New Yorkers are among the noisiest that one heeds them first.

The majority are from the West, and I must say that they are just as nice as they can be. There is one girl from San Francisco,—a French girl, educated in U. S. A., who is absolutely charming. When I compare myself to her, I feel quite ashamed in some and most respects. . . .

If it will not be too much trouble, I would like you to send me my black satin slippers. I'm so tired of having these heavy shoes all the time. It would quite a relief to have a pair of slippers on in the evening when we are at home together.

I am going to bed now, not because I want to stop,—I could go on forever,—but because I must get up early in the morning and also because the censor is more apt to take up the thinner looking letters first.

Happy in France

April 12, 1918.

DEAR ———:

Your two letters have come and have made the happiest girl imaginable out of me.

As far as material things are concerned, I have more than my share, considering what I set out to do and why. Our accommodations, as I have said, are perfectly fine, and lately a limousine has been added to our list of comforts, so that we may not have to walk to and from work, if we don't want to. So you see that physically I am all right, but oh, how I miss you!

It is perfectly disgraceful how little I know of what is going on at present. I never read a newspaper and am absolutely ignorant of anything that takes place anywhere. So write me news, please, loads, loads of it.

We have made plans to take a long walk on Sunday in the sunshine. It has done that so rarely that I would not be surprised if we were disappointed, but no matter if it rains or not, I am going to go out. The country around here is perfectly gorgeous, everywhere one turns in every direction there is the most wonderful scenery, and the only thing I want is you to enjoy this with me. We only see the bright side of war, but some of us get an inkling once in a while of what is going on at the front by hearing a word here and there from people coming back or by seeing some troop trains going there. There is nothing more pitiful and inspiring at the same time than to see those box-cars filled with those dear French soldiers who have been doing so much for four years and who are yet gay and not at all bitter.

The other night we had the pleasure of hearing the experiences of a Frenchman who had escaped from a German war prisoner's camp where he had been for two years. Needless to say, his talk was very gripping. I don't know whether it is wise to write the details, so that is another thing I am reserving to tell you when we see each other again. Won't we have a lot to talk about, once we are reunited again?

I am crazy to get a pair of those cute little French slippers. Every time I pass a shoe store they dance and beckon and tantalize me. Finally I couldn't stand it any longer and went in rashly, deciding that even if I couldn't wear them with those high heels and spiffy bows with a uniform, I would get them anyhow to wear in the evenings. But my good fairy must have been watching over me, because nowhere in that establishment could they find a pair small enough to fit me. It seems that all the women of this town have big feet.

Spring and Rhododendrons

Saturday, April 20.

DEAR ———:

To-night the officers of the Signal Corps are giving us a dinner. I, however, stayed here, had my dinner brought up to my room, and am now settling down for a chat with you. Oh! These moments are so precious! I only wish I had better photos of you, though I don't need them to bring you any closer. I carry a picture of you with me always, that nothing in the world could efface. You can guess where I keep it. Its proper lodging place is an organ that most people believe is meant solely to pump and send blood coursing through one's veins, but I know better.

The other girls feel sorry for me. They can't imagine why I should want to stay home. If they could see me now positively basking in peace and quiet. What a relief to be alone! You know we are two in a room, so it is very hard to get off by one's self Besides the walls of this house are of such a nature that nothing in the way of noise escapes your attention, no matter how large or small.

You know your offspring takes herself too seriously. To tell the truth, your one and only is ridiculously young, no matter how wise she may imagine she is at times. In fact, I must confess that she does things, says things, and thinks things which are most melodramatic. I am ashamed to say at times she thinks things are very tragic and doesn't see the huge joke of it all until afterwards. Let's thank our stars that she sees the joke at all. Better late than never.

It is beginning to be nice weather now, though it is quite cold for the season. You should see me bundled up now in a sweater, and wooly bath-robe. With my goggles I must make quite a picture. I am developing a great quality of concentration. If you knew how hard it is to stay indoors when the sun is shining and you know the air is cool and invigorating! But neverthless, I manage to keep my mind most of the time on my work. I hope to improve as the time goes on. As a telephone operator I am not exactly a wonder, but there is nothing that anybody else can do that is impossible for me to do perfectly. So though I am not in line for a chief operator or supervisor, I'll be a deuced good plain operator.

Our second unit has arrived and we have four more girls here. That means that we will be able to have one day off a week. Next Wednesday is my holiday and oh, gracious! what a wonderful time I'm going to have! First of all, I'm going to be saturated through and through with that sense of leisure. Then I'm going to sleep and write and walk in the country. I ought to sew buttons on, but since it is the first holiday I have had for a long, long time, I am going to do just exactly what I feel like doing.

The New Shock Absorber

A FREAKISH accident emphasized to a remarkable degree the strength and endurance of one of our guy wires located at Broadway and Percy Street, Flushing, L. I.

The driver of a two-ton Walton delivery truck, belonging to Louis Sherry, New York's well known caterer, lost control of the car,—caused by a broken knuckle in connection with the steering gear. The car ran up the guy wire and hung suspended with only its rear wheels resting on the ground for two hours, when it was brought back to earth by employees of our Plant Department. The front of the car was fully five feet off the ground.

The truck tried to climb a guy wire

Hundreds of passers-by both in automobiles and on foot, stopped to gaze, many imagining it to be a stunt put on by a moving picture concern.

Louis Sherry himself happened to pass on his way to New York, and upon investigating, appeared to be satisfied as to the way in which the guy wire had been placed.

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A group of operators on the steps of Washington College. First row (left to right)—Miss A. Oswald, Miss Lillian Scully, chaperon; Miss R. Johnston. Second row—Miss I. McMann, Miss L. Cassidy, Miss A. Callahan, Miss Huegle. Third row—Miss Buell, Miss Nickolson, Miss K. Kennedy. Fourth row—Miss T. Quinn, Miss E. Garity, Miss G. Donough

Miss Lillian Scully, the chaperon at Washington College, who is "well liked by each and every one of the girls." They call her their "Washington Mother"

Telephone operators in Washington, gathered on the lawn of Washington College. First row (left to right)—Miss A. Callahan, Miss I. McMann, Miss A. Oswald, Miss R. Johnston. Second row—Miss L. Cassidy. Third row—Miss M. Nickolson, Miss I. Callahan, Miss A. Buell, Miss G. Donough

The Telephone Operator at Washington

THERE are now in Washington nearly six hundred operators from the New York Telephone Company and the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, and the number is steadily increasing.

A difficult problem had to be solved in finding suitable buildings in which to establish homes for our girls, and in having them ready for occupancy by the time they are needed.

Owing to the congested condition of Washington and to the demand for buildings of all kinds for almost all purposes, especially for living quarters, future needs as well as present requirements were taken into account. The problem was further aggravated by the determination of the telephone company not to be satisfied with anything as a place of residence for our operators, except such as possessed a comfortable and agreeable atmosphere that would be conducive to their greater happiness while away from their own homes.

It is because of this careful and thoughtful selection on the part of the Company that the Washington College and the Bristol School, chosen for the accommodation of the operators, were so successful in this respect. The enthusiasm expressed by the girls themselves leaves no doubt on this score. Really, life there more nearly resembles that enjoyed by the girl attending college than anything else.

And now, with the ever-increasing traffic at Washington, and the extra load that must be carried by the telephone system there,

TO be in Washington in the spring, when the trees are budding, and the birds are singing, is a joy indeed. At least, so think our New York Telephone Company operators who are doing war work there. All winter they have been looking forward to the time when the beautiful campus of the Washington College would be green again, and to the trips to Mount Vernon and Arlington, both of which are at the height of their beauty in the spring and summer.

So delighted are the girls who have volunteered to serve at Washington with the good eats, fine rooms, permission to call home on the telephone, and, last but not least, their charming and motherly chaperons, that they have asked us to say a few good words for each. The accommodations that the Telephone Company has provided for their pleasure and comfort have made them among the happiest "soldiers in the service" at Washington.

Where 120 of the operators in Washington will live this summer. A spacious and comfortable grey stone house with handsome furnishings, recently occupied by the Chinese Embassy, and now the Colonial School for Girls, Eighteenth and Q Streets

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there is a constant transfer of operators to the Capital. As it is the policy of the Company to have a suitable place ready for every girl who volunteers to do war work there, it naturally followed that the Company negotiated for other buildings that would meet its requirements as had the Bristol School and the Washington College. The result was that several other handsome buildings were taken over by the Company.

One of these, the Belcourt Seminary, at 13th and Girard Streets, N. W., is now being occupied, and with the changes to be made, will accommodate one hundred and eighty operators by June 15. This was formerly a private mansion, converted into a school for girls, with tennis courts adjoining. It is at the disposal of the operators, who will live in it under the care of Miss Jackson, of the Operators' Training Department at Pittsburgh, until the fall. Eighty more operators will be accommodated by two residence buildings (which are connected), on the corner of Vermont Avenue and L Street, N. W., and one hundred and twenty by the Colonial School and Colonial School Annex, at 18th and Q Streets, N. W., all of which comply with the standard of what the Company wishes for its operators.

But even these will not be large enough to accommodate all! Imagine the problem that the Company has set itself! Even now it is negotiating for the lease of the Fairmont Seminary at 2701 14th Street, N. W., and the residence of Dr. Garfield, head of the Fuel Administration, which will provide for two hundred operators, and for a large residence building opposite it which can take care of between forty and fifty.

These are historic times, and the girls realize it. The difference between New York and Washington, said John Burroughs, is that New York has climate and Washington has atmosphere. It must mean something to live in the same building that housed the Chinese Embassy, as will the girls who are to take up their quarters in the Colonial School. In fact, there is an interesting story connected with almost every one of these beautiful dwellings that have been chosen for our operators at Washington.

The Liberty Loan and the Red Cross Are Over the Top. Now Come Across With the War Stavings Stamps.

New York Telephone Team Wins Championship Cup

THE New York Telephone Company Manhattan-Bronx Division team has for the third successive year won the championship of the Metal District Bowling League, which entitles it to be the permanent possessor of a beautiful trophy, a silver cup.

The Metal District Bowling League was organized January 7, 1903, and each succeeding year it has conducted a bowling tournament, in which the teams playing, represented the largest commercial houses in Greater New York. The two teams from the New York Telephone Company, one from the Manhattan-Bronx Division and the other from the Long Island Division, joined the tournament in the year 1915. Both teams ambitiously entered with the resolve of capturing the cup that had been the source of such sharp competition for eleven years. During these years before the entrance of the Telephone Company's teams in the match, the cup had remained only twice in the same house between bowling seasons. The American Hide and Leather Company's team was the only one that had the honor of holding the cup two successive years.

Winners of bowling championship. Left to right (seated): C. F. Weber, Commercial; W. C. Asman, Commercial; (standing): F. Haessig, Plant; L Ahrens, Commercial; H. L. Rosencrance, Engineering; J. C. Cullum, Scorer, Commercial

In order to obtain permanent possession of the cup, however, it was necessary that it be won by a team representing the same house for three years. The Manhattan-Bronx Division team accomplished this feat in the first three years that it played.

The cup was presented to the team at the annual dinner of the league held on Thursday, April 18, 1918, and it was accepted by J. R. Pollock, Division Commercial Manager, Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division. He fulfilled his promise of a year ago, that in the event that the team again won the championship, he would accept the cup and fill it with "the necessary." G. G. Volkmar, Dey Street District Commercial Manager, as promised last year, also attended the dinner. Mr. S. V. Gibson, District Commercial Manager Main, was present, as representative of the Long Island Division team which finished in third place.

The following employees comprised the team for the past three years: W. C. Asman, L. Ahrens, C. F. Weber, and F. S. Pfleger, Commercial Department; H. L. Rosencrance and J. Corcoran, Engineering Department; F. Haessig, Plant Department, and L. Reynolds, Accounting Department.

The teams represented in the tournament just closed are shown in order of finish:

Teams	*Won*	*Lost*	*Ave.*
N. Y. Tel. Co., Man.....	37	5	879
E. W. Bliss Co.....	36	6	850
N. Y. Tel. Co., Bklyn....	29	13	844
H. W. Johns-Manville Co.	27	15	818
Western Union Tel. Co..	26	16	819
Goldsmith, Stern & Co..	25	17	822
Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.	25	17	817
Brooklyn Union Gas Co..	21	21	783
Armour & Co.....	19	23	780
Edison Elec. Illg. Co....	16	26	784
Lidgerwood Mfg. Co.....	16	26	778
American Can Co., No. 1	14	28	759
American Can Co., Illsley	13	29	753
Hungerford B. & C. Co..	6	36	700
DeVoe & Reynolds Co..	.5	37	738

An Amateur at the Telephone

Recently, a patron who evidently was not accustomed to the use of the telephone, made a local call, and upon receiving a final report on the number he had called, asked for the manager.

He was connected with the chief operator, who questioned him about the trouble he was having, and what report the operator had given him.

"Oh, she just kept saying, 'It's a dumb answer'" (don't answer), was the angry reply.

MAE L. RIORDAN,
Night Chief Operator,
Montgomery Central Office,
Jersey City.

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Being an Aviator

THAT aviation has its thrills can be easily seen from the first-hand information given by two of the telephone men who have entered the service and who are by this time "on the top of the heap." The thrills experienced in flying evidently compensate for the risks.

According to Louis B. Daumont, formerly of the Engineering Department, there is a great difference between "Indoor Aviation," as he calls it, and the real thing. In his letter to Mr. Carpenter, he apologizes humorously for "wild statements" that he made some time ago about the daring things one could do with an aeroplane when one had mastered the art of flying.

His letters, telling a great many interesting facts about the course followed by "would-be" fliers, follow:

Aeroplaning as She Really Is

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

I owe you an apology. One day I breezed into your office and told you a lot about aeroplanes, as learned at Princeton—how they fly themselves and how one walks out on a wing (I probably called it "aerofoil") and tinkers with the engine as the thing glides merrily on about 5,000 feet up, and how, if they get upside down they will right themselves, and many other things. I could have proved all those statements, too. But—I've found out that such is not the case. Some day they may build machines that will fulfill ground school specifications—but then it won't be any more fun riding in them than on the subway. Occasionally someone lets go the "stick," perhaps unintentionally, and the sergeant who assigns the "ships" crosses that one off the list of available planes, and yawns.

As for walking about while in the air, I might say it is quite an art even to wave a hand to niggers watching from below, without losing the hand. And we have good old ships that can't go over 90 miles without shaking themselves to pieces. I expect that in a 140-mile machine a projecting finger will be whisked off in a jiffy.

But I'm getting ahead of the story—not a real story—but maybe you'd like to know the sensations one has in the air. I know I would have a few months ago, so I'll take a chance and tell you.

Dual Instruction

When we first landed here (Park Field) we found that the fact that we had gone through ground school merely proved the saying hereabouts that "aviators have no sense; if they had they wouldn't be aviators." So we were immediately put to work unlearning all we had absorbed at Princeton. We did it rather grudgingly at first. We were, we thought, about ready for the front. Then we were started on our "dual instruction," seated in the rear seat of a dual-control "Curtistractor." At first we were given the "stick"—that piece of wood that moves to control the "elevator" and "ailerons." Next, the rudder.

After six hours of this (for me) the instructor stepped out and tied a white handkerchief on the rudder and told me I could run the thing as well as he could. I believed him—then. The handkerchief is a signal to all the other ships to keep away. So up I went—with not more care than if I were going on an errand around the corner. Then came the days of waiting. The wind howls in Tennessee every day, and only the cadets with four hours of solo work were allowed to go up.

At last I sneaked in the required time to get in the wind class. My first windy day was fairly mild, but my second a nightmare. There are not only hundreds of things to remember in a wind, but page after page of instructions as to how, where, and when to fly over Park Field. And the wind tries its best to break these rules by carrying you all over the South. And right here my experience stops for the present—for I've had but eight hours solo work.

Tricks of the Trade

I haven't told you anything about sensations yet, have I? Well, in the first place I had to forget that I was old enough to know better than to try to be an aviator and I did that successfully. Then I had to forget that carefulness wouldn't get you out of a "tail-spin." So I put all my thoughts on the matter of being the first in my class to finish, and it's not bragging—merely dam-foolishness—to say that to date I'm O. K. on that score. I've had the rather unpleasant experience twice of going up right after I'd watched the wind or carelessness bring down two ships, and I can't say that it bothered me much. You have sort of a sense of responsibility when you "give her the gun" (throttle), and when I get up and start I always begin to feel that I've got more brains than the ship, and it *must* obey me.

There are certain common-sense things to do in times of trouble—and on windy days that means all the time—and if you do them you can get away with only a broken nose or some missing teeth. In a wind it depends on just which way you're going whether you do one set of things or the other. When the wind suddenly hits you in the cheek, you really don't have time to think of the rule number—you just automatically bank her or straighten her. And if the engine suddenly starts erratic purrings—you are supposed to know whether it is poor gas, an empty tank, or water in the carburetor. (You do a different thing for each of those. A bum spark-plug has still another sound.) So when you come right down, it is only a case of guessing correctly before it is too late. In my eight hours I have had everything happen that could happen. And here I am in Memphis, writing a lot of bunk about it. "Indoor aviation"—as we call it.

Sensations

But *still* I haven't mentioned sensations. Well, it seems a shame to admit it, but the sensation on a calm day is just about like what you have when going down Ocean Boulevard in a twin-six. But on a rough day it is like going up Broadway at sixty per, with no way to throttle down. At first I said it seemed perfectly safe. It *ain't*. That's all there is too it. You're continually fighting to keep the thing right side up. And you're not always successful. I've tried things that are forbidden and have confidence now in *me*, but I wouldn't trust any ship for one-half second on the mildest kind of day.

The real danger lies in the simple fact that landings are the hardest part of flying, and in order to get lots of practice, we land every round. But that means that you can't get altitude—and altitude is what you need for safety. At 3,000 feet you can do anything—and along about the end of next week I'll be doing it. But at 750 feet you have to watch every fraction of a second. I put a ship in a "stall" (last flying speed) at about 1,000 feet the other day, against all rules, but was feeling soft of chipper. And before I got her righted I was about 10 feet over the trees of a thick wood. That was miles from the field or I wouldn't be here now; they take away week-end passes for such infractions of rules.

I've also "skidded" and "side-slipped" against rules, but at a safe altitude. So when I get in "advanced solo work" next week I will know just how far to trust a ship. On calm days—(wind about 20 miles)—we have a lot of fun unknown to the officers. I've raced automobiles about eighty feet over them, chased scared horses, and once busted up a basketball game in front of a high school in a nearby town. I've practiced waving my hand until I can go over to Bolton College—about eight miles away—(a girl's school) and have a wonderful flirtation with the young ladies.

Many funny things happen when engines balk. Mayors of towns meet the cadets, give 'em the keys to the city, and erect tablets to the occasion in the Town Hall. I haven't been lost yet, for it counts against one. Lost on the front means something worse than here.

Now I've rambled on until it's train time back to P. F., and this really was only written to apologize for remarks about "How to Fly" as taught in *ground* school. Please tell Mr. Colket that I take back all I said, too. I'll write again when I've finished the looping, et cetera, part of this course. I expect to finish about April 15.

Respectfully,
Louis B. Daumont.

Flying Cadet,
Park Field, Memphis, Tenn.

Further Adventures of Louis B. Daumont, Cadet

Dear Gang:

You've all been pretty doggone nice to write letters to me, and I thank you all very much. I know I haven't returned the compliment,—but I'm no good at anything like that, for "to-morrow" always did seem the best day to do my letter writing.

As for what to put in a letter,—I'm lost, for I wonder how you can swallow all this aviation stuff that I've written, and probably Ed, too, and then say my letters are O.K. But by golly, if you *do* want to hear about flying, far be it from me to hold back any information—true or near true; for here we can that kind of talk. We have to, or we'd go crazy. I. D. A. (indoor aviation) is the most boresome thing in the world.

Well, let me think. My last letter got me in to the "second solo class," I think. In that class we went over to a smoothed-out cotton field about 12 miles from Park Field, so as to keep out of the way of the dual and first solo crowd. In second solo, we start the R. M. A. tests.

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EMBROIDERED WINGS

These consist of a lot of bunk that finally lets you wear a pair of beautifully embroidered wings, very nifty. First you go up over 4,000 feet and stay there an hour. Very hard to do. Not! Then you land to a mark a few million times, and this isn't so darn easy, for everything is against you. The field is about 200 yards square, and you only get an altitude of about 100 feet; then cut the engine and turn 90 degrees or 180 degrees and glide into the marker. And you are not supposed to skid or slip, and must hit "3 points" within 25 feet. Then you spend lots of time making 8's and spirals. You make 8's,—picking out two houses or something for pylons.

The officer in charge tells you not to bank over 45 degrees, but no one ever got out of the class unless they cocked 'em up quite some. I always have played a safe game because I was after "corps d'arme," which requires good judgment at all times. But when I got tired of second solo class, I asked to be "put in the west." That is right at the edge of the field where the lieutenants can see every move your ship makes. So I went up and did an hour's 8's and spirals and when I got down the officer in charge said: "——— Daumont, you don't have to cock them up *over* 90 degrees. You go in cross-country." Which is why I did it. So next day I "hogged" a ship and spent the whole day finishing the cross-country trips They're too easy, but of course half the cadets get lost anyhow. In all there are four trips,—two triangle and two straightaways. You land in designated towns and in fields about as big as a silver dollar, and there is an officer at each field to check your time and gasoline and grade you on your landing. I am not too modest to say that I made the best time on every trip with the least gas, and flew without a compass or altimeter. Of course we all had maps.

STUNTS

Then came the beginning of the end,—acrobatics. And now all that stands between me and my R. M. A. is one lone hour of loops and Immelmann turns. I spent most of yesterday at stalls, tail spins, slips, skids, minimum glide, maximum climb, wing-overs, and things, until I was woozy.

Stunts are the best thing in the whole course, and I'll never want to do straight flying again, but I guess I'll have to. Those of you who have read that book, "With the French Flying Corps" (or something like that), will remember the thing the author spoke of by some French name that students first had to be careful not to do,—and later had to do. That is the tail spin, or spinning nose dive. It's the bugbear of flying until you find out how easy it is to get out of it. All through the course here you fear that tail spin. Day before yesterday, two fellows in second solo got into them, and one fell 800 feet and the other 300. By the most beautiful luck they both come down in trees and a few bruises and cracked noses were the only results, except that Uncle Sam lost $17,000 in airplanes. Up until my first acrobatics I had been wearing a stiff helmet—in case of a fall. Now I wear the thinnest one I can get, for I believe I can get out of anything that happens except a crumpled wing—and in case of that I won't care what kind of helmet I have.

If they would only give you that tail spin, early in the game, it would save lots of worry. But it certainly wouldn't produce as good flyers, for there's no doubt but what acrobatics make you careless. My stunt instructor is a Cornell graduate, about 22 years old, and he's forgotten how to fly correctly, almost. He loves to shut off the engine and turn around and talk to you while you wonder fearfully—at first—what the ship is going to do. It always does something, believe me, and suddenly; and when it does, he holds up both hands to let you know you're supposed to get out of the fix you're in.

I fooled him properly once; when he shut out the engine, I pulled back the wheel and kicked on some left rudder and let her go. The nose went skyward and then over, and when the spin started, I gave it reverse rudder, pulled back again, and flipped over the ailerons into a cross betweeen an Immelmann turn, a spin, and a stall. When I straightened it out he cussed me out, but was glad I did it as it showed him he was not needed. So we came down and he let me go alone.

He loves to zoom—and will go straight at a house or tree and zoom over it. And if the trees are close together, he tilts her up and goes through on edge. He is going to give me a joy ride to-morrow when I finish up, and I'll bet it will be some ride.

A SCARED BIRD

Are you getting sick of this? No? All right, then. I might mention that the second solo class brings out all that's wild in a cadet, and no one knows why. Three lieutenants are over there, and they're all crack flyers, and perhaps that has something to do with it, for when one of them goes up and pulls something queer, everyone tries to do it.

"Reversed controls" is the password over there, and no one thinks of making an 8 or a spiral without banking beyond 45 degrees. That makes the elevator act as the rudder, and vice versa. And if you forget for an instant that the controls are reversed, you're out of luck.

The funniest thing I've seen in some time was a fellow who got into a cloud the other day. We were all watching him, because the cloud was good and thick, and suddenly he came out—about 200 miles an hour, and *upside down*. The gas and oil were pouring out all over him. Then he tried to bring it around and only succeeded in getting bottom-side up again. When he did get out of it, he came right down, and he was the scaredest bird in Tennessee when he climbed out.

As I said, I've been playing a "good judgment" game all the way through here, and have been covered with luck. Haven't smashed a ship or even a landing gear, and have had four forced landings in corn and cotton fields, once taking down four of the Bell System's most approved wires. I saw them and dove right at them; they might as well have been thread. And now I'm wondering what they're going to teach at Mineola, for that is where I want to be sent. It is rumored that it will be a bombing school, so I'm going to try for that.

Yours,

Lou.

Louis B. Daumont,
Flying Cadet,
Park Field, Memphis, Tenn.

Harold McCormick, "at ease" on a fence pole,—his own "observation post," Camp Dodge, Iowa

Bell and Western Electric men attending the Signal Corps Radio School at College Park, Md. R. Downs, W. E. Co.; P. L. Osborne, So. Bell Co.; C. S. Prescott, W. E. Co.; I. W. Gibson, Bell of Pa.; D. C. Tate, W. E. Co.; J. H. Mathews, Cent. District Tel. Co.; O. H. Berthold, N. Y. Tel. Co.; E. C. Whitehead, W. E. Co.; Park Elliott, N. Y. Tel. Co.; N. C. Steketee, Chicago Tel. Co.; John Jarvis Cox, Pioneer Tel. & Tel. Oklahoma and W. E. Co.; Harry F. Dart, W. E. Co.; Peter J. Ward, So. Bell T. & T. Co.; W. M. Stark, Cumberland T. & T. Co.; G. A. Johnson, W. U. Co.; A. E. Johnson, So. Cal. Tel. Co.; Paul Hilker, S. W. T. & T. Co.; H. B. Johnson, W. E. Co.

One of Uncle Sam's telephone linemen, Wm. J. Wallor, Co. C, 102d Field Signal Battalion, Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

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On a Submarine Chaser

WE have heard of the life of the telephone linemen, of the Signal Corps, the infantry, the artillery, and the aero-squadrons. There still remains the submarine chaser,—which, like the air service, seems to be surrounded by the halo of romance. The old vessels of Captain Kidd cannot hold their place in childish fancy since the advent of that extraordinary fleet of tiny whirlwind boats that prowl over the sea in search of their lawful booty,—the German U-Boat. They are manned by daring men, who can endure bitter cold and heavy seas, long hours of watch, snatches of sleep only when they can tuck them in, and an extraordinary nerve strain.

Ensign Walter P. Groszmann is in command of U. S. Submarine Chaser No. 327. He was formerly in the Plant Engineering Department of our Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division, and in the following letter to Mr. G. C. Allen he tells about life aboard a chaser:

April 28, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. ALLEN:

You have probably heard by this time that my dear wife paid me a flying visit in Bermuda. It was as close to a miss as it was possible to be, but yet we had the satisfaction of spending a few hours together before my leaving on the second and longest leg of our journey "over there."

She told me that you would be glad to hear from me, and I am surely glad to write. As you well know, the information that we may give is very limited, but yet I can tell you some things that may be interesting.

Neither you nor I imagined that day you came down to the Navy Yard with us, at the end of a tow line, just how much punishment from old Father Neptune these small craft could endure and live through. I, however, have had a demonstration. You probably now know of the extent of the damage to shipping which that gale of February 25, and 26, did. It was simply merciless, and yet these little dots on the sea came through practically unscathed. They require constant attention and careful handling, of course, but given that, they are simply wonderful. Comfort at sea on these ships is an unknown quantity, for they are never still. That is what is so wearing on us; we are constantly seeking to hold our balance. During the first leg we were at sea for five days, and yesterday afternoon we finished our second, having been out for just twelve days. A bit tired, yes, for our watches are four hours on and four off, so we never have a chance to sleep longer than three and a half hours at a time. Of course, when we reach our destination and enter upon our regular work those watches will not be quite so tiring, as our periods at sea will be shorter.

This second leg of our journey was rather uneventful, for we had good weather and an ordinary sea. You see, after that gale, it has to get pretty rough before it bothers us.

"GOING OVER"

We all ran under our own power all the way across, unless towing was necessary because of breakdowns. There were very few of those, though. I was the most unfortunate one of the fleet. In going alongside of the fuel ship, a badly handled line got into two of my propellers, causing me to lose control just long enough to be thrown by a sea squarely across the tanker's bow. She was making about five knots at the time, and the situation was quite grave, as she was rolling us over. Fortunately, I had one engine left, and by calling for full speed ahead and hard right rudder, I was able to pivot around the stem and come out on the other side headed in the opposite direction. It was rather a delicate balance for a few moments, and called for some rather quick action. Fortunately, I had hit upon the right manoeuvre, and we came out practically unscathed. It was a five-inch line that we had picked up, and it was impossible to clear it, even though a number of us went overboard with knives. The result was that we had to be towed for the last three days, as we could not make sufficient speed with one engine. However, when we got off this harbor entrance my dander arose, and I cast off the tow line and made port under our own power.

You probably know the track taken by the ships which are being sent over here, so you may guess the port we are now in. I was ashore last night, but got no opportunity to see anything. If we are fortunate enough to get back after this war is over, these experiences will be of great value to us all.

In Bermuda I ran across a sailor named Wilson who had been one of my buglers at Bensonhurst, and he told me of having met you on a steamer out of Charleston, S. C. He delivered your message, which I much appreciate.

I would appreciate it if you would remember me to Mr. Foraker and Mr. Mellinger. I have been wanting to write them, but my time in port is always so taken up with reports and routine and preparations for sea that personal mail is sadly neglected. I want you all to know, though, that my appreciation of all that has been done for me is real, and that when I return to my old work it will be with renewed energy and enthusiasm. I think that all of us in the service realize to the fullest that we are not employees of a bloodless corporation, but rather are working for a company of real men, who have not only the service, but also the best interests of those who go to make up the service, very deeply at heart.

With kindest regards I am

Sincerely yours,

WALTER P. GROSZMANN.

U. S. S. C. No. 327,
c/o Postmaster,
New York.

Mail to France

MAIL to the boys in France does not fly to them with the swiftness of the homing bird. In fact, so clogged up have the mails been that even yet our telephone boys are receiving Christmas Boxes. People have been discouraged, fearing that there were many things lost in transit, as it did not seem probable that they could be delayed so long. But these boxes were sent on November 14, and up to April 14, were still being received over there.

In a note, dated April 14, acknowledging receipt of his box, Charles K. Kerby, C. E., formerly of the Engineering Department, writes:

Two of my Xmas packages made their belated appearance yesterday, one from St. Marks Young Men and the other from the Telephone Company, and they were both as fine packages as ever gladdened the heart of a soldier.

I had heard considerable regarding the St. Marks box, so was looking for something pretty good, but the Telephone box went far ahead of what I expected. It was all wrapped up with tissue paper and tied with holly ribbon, so it looked mighty fine. The best thing in it was a real American knife (made by Weck). It sure looked good to me after the so-called knives of French make.

Your clipping regarding packages from U. S. received. The last isue of the *Stars & Stripes* notes a new order to the effect that no more packages may be sent unless asked for, so you will not be able to send me any more stuff unless I ask for it. However, I am mighty well fixed up now. Those Xmas packages helped a lot, so you can save your money for a while.

Friday night was a big night, as Elsie Janis was at the "Y." and a big house, of course, was there to greet her. The young lady was as charming and entertaining as ever. It sure was good to see a real American girl again. Some of the French girls are mighty easy to look at, but that is as far as I want to go.

April is surely living up to its reputation. So far we have not had a single day without rain. But it only rains for a small part of each day, so we are lucky after all.

CHARLES K. KERBY, C. E.

Co. B, 503rd Engineers,
Service Battalion,
A. E. F., France,
(P. O. No. 701).

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Record Liberty Loan Subscriptions

In the Third Liberty Loan the Employees of the New York Telephone Company Exceeded Their Combined Subscriptions to the First Two Loans

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Third Liberty Loan amounting to the splendid total of $1,306,450 were made through the New York Telephone Company by its employees.

Of the total number of employees, 61.88% subscribed, and for this there are now six stars on the Liberty Loan flag flying in front of the door at 15 Dey Street.

This amount does not take into account the subscriptions by the same and other employees through banks and other channels, enough of which are known to justify the statement that they reached a very considerable sum.

All the subscriptions placed through the Company were on the basis which was offered to its employees, of having payments made by small deductions from weekly and monthly salaries, just as in the case of the first and second loans, and, therefore, the grand total of such subscriptions to the three loans, aggregating $2,529,450, represents future savings in this form of investment alone by our fellow-employees.

The total subscriptions to the Third Liberty Loan by employees through the companies constituting the Eastern Group—The New York Telephone Company, The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, and the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, and their associated companies—amounted to $2,020,750, and to the three Liberty Loans a grand total of $3,801,750.

The subscriptions taken by employees in the territory of the New York Telephone Company were divided as follows:

To the Third Loan, 8,473 men subscribed $669,550, and 11,237 women subscribed $636,900; total, 19,710 employees subscribing $1,306,450, as compared with the following subscriptions to the first two loans combined:

Men, 9,332, $767,750; women, 8,168, $455,250; total, 17,500, $1,223,000.

It will be seen that both the men and the women exceeded in the Third Loan the combined total subscriptions to the first two loans, and that the number of women increased by 3,069, whereas the number of men was less by 859. The total number of subscriptions to all three loans was 37,210.

On May 7, when Mr. U. N. Bethell saw the preliminary report on the result of the Third Liberty Loan campaign throughout the entire Bell System, he wrote the following letter of congratulation:

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

New York, May 7, 1918.

MR. F. H. BETHELL,
First Vice-President New York Telephone Company,
President, The Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania,
The Central District Telephone Company,
The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company.
15 Dey Street, New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Bethell:

I congratulate Bell System employees everywhere on their splendid participation in the Third Liberty Loan. The final figures have not as yet been tabulated, but over one hundred thousand employees subscribed a total of more than seven million dollars ($7,000,000).

Very truly yours,
U. N. BETHELL,
Senior Vice-President.

According to the latest figures received before going to press, the total number of subscriptions to the Third Loan by all employees of the Bell System through their respective companies was 119,140, and the total amount of their subscriptions the sum of $8,060,000.

The Treasury Department of the Government has announced that the total subscriptions to the Third Liberty Loan reached the enormous sum of $4,170,019,650.

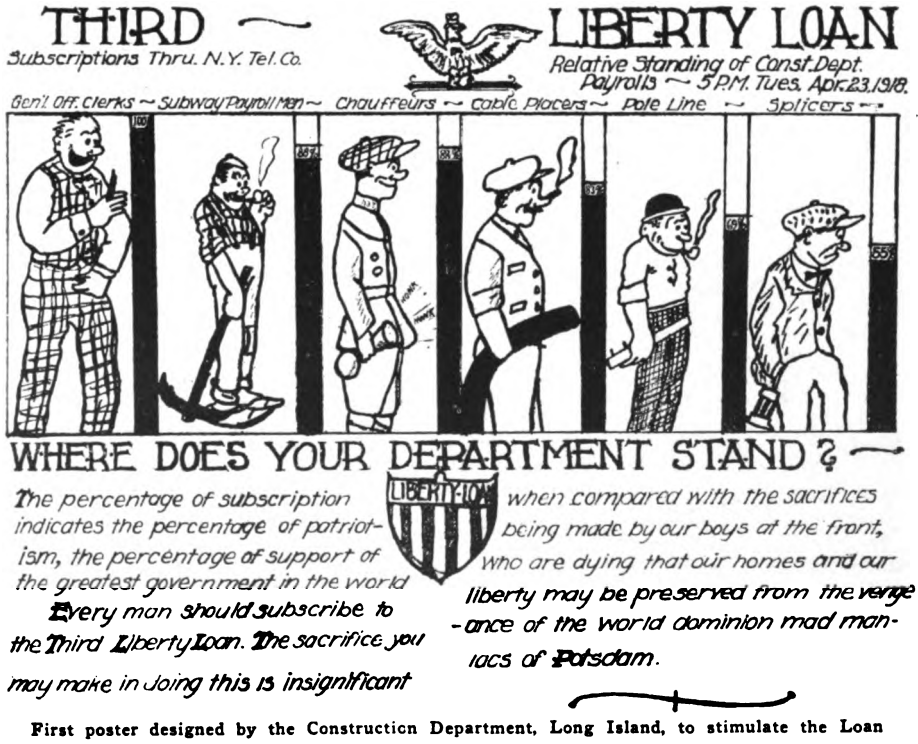
In this tremendous drive about 17,000,000 individual subscribers came over the top with their money to help win the war against the Huns, which means that one person in six of the entire population of the United States bought a bond.

At the interest rate of 4¼% which these bonds bear, the owners will receive annually $177,225,835 from the Government until maturity, when the original investment will be returned.

THROUGHOUT the organization of the New York Telephone Company there was an enthusiastic determination to beat all records. It was the spontaneous response to the call of the nation to supply the sinews of war.

The forces of the division equipment department in the Western division set out to double the amount of their subscriptions to the second Liberty Loan. They almost tripled it,—and 97 per cent. of them subscribed. A poster 22 by 28 inches was designed, bearing the legend, "Kan the Kaiser." It represented two cans the relative sizes of the subscriptions to the first two loans, and a third can drawn double the size of the last. This poster was prominently displayed, effectively helping along the enthusiasm. The little town of Wilson appropriately furnished the largest individual subscription.

The Traffic Department in the Central Division not only showed a won-


THIRD LIBERTY LOAN
Subscriptions Thru. N.Y. Tel. Co.
Relative Standing of Const. Dept. Payrolls — 5 P.M. Tues. Apr. 23, 1918.
Gen'l Off. Clerks — Subway Payroll Men — Chauffeurs — Cable Placers — Pole Line — Splicers
WHERE DOES YOUR DEPARTMENT STAND?
The percentage of subscription indicates the percentage of patriotism, the percentage of support of the greatest government in the world
when compared with the sacrifices being made by our boys at the front, who are dying that our homes and our liberty may be preserved from the vengeance of the world dominion mad maniacs of Potsdam.
Every man should subscribe to the Third Liberty Loan. The sacrifice you may make in doing this is insignificant

First poster designed by the Construction Department, Long Island, to stimulate the Loan

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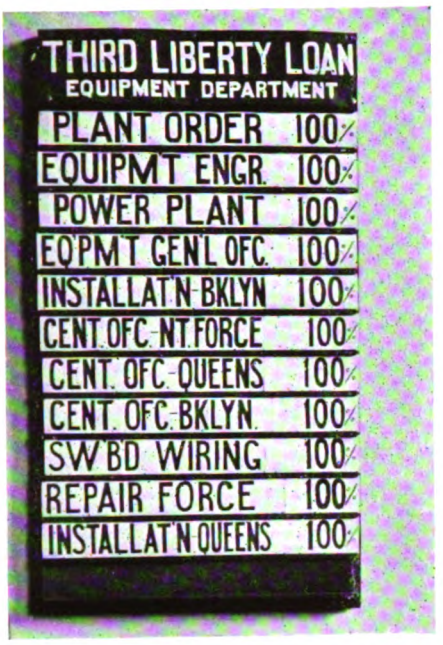


Bulletin Board in the Long Island Equipment Department Offices

derful increase both in the number subscribing and in the total amount, as compared with the first two loans, but they gave such superlatively good telephone service to the committees working on the loan that the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee of Utica felt called upon to write Miss Franz, our chief operator in that city, the following letter:

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR WOMAN'S SERVICE

Utica, N. Y., April 26, 1918.

MISS FRANZ,
New York Telephone Company,
Bleecker Street,
Utica, N. Y.

MY DEAR MISS FRANZ:

The members of the Women's Liberty Loan Committee wish me to express to you and to the operators of the New York Telephone Company, their sincere thanks for the prompt and efficient service which has been given during the period of this Third Liberty Loan drive.

So numerous and varied have been the demands upon the service of the operators that we all feel we would like them to know personally how very much obliged we are to them for their courteous and prompt attention.

In one division of the Women's Liberty Loan work alone, we know of five hundred telephone calls having been made and we would like to have the operators know that we appreciate and acknowledge to them their share in making this Third Liberty Loan campaign, the success it is in our city.

Very sincerely yours,
NATALIE GILBERT,
Chairman,
Women's Liberty Loan Committee.

The figures printed above, showing the total results accomplished by the women of the company, were no doubt produced by the spirit which the Traffic Department in the Western Division states actuated them in this, as we know it does in their daily work,—"Anything worth doing at all is worth doing well," and all enjoy the satisfaction that they feel expressed in the following lines from the poet Thomas Moore, which they send us:

When time, who steals our years away,
Shall steal our pleasure, too,
The memory of the past shall stay
And half our joys renew

Twenty central offices in the Hudson Division were in the 100 per cent. class, and there were so many others in the different divisions and departments that it is impossible to list them all.

The equipment department in Long Island put up a bulletin board on which the name of each equipment force was posted daily, arranged in order according to the percentage subscribing. The first to attain 100 per cent. was, of course, at the top. For the entire Long Island construction department some one designed a poster near the end of the campaign and blue-prints were sent to all the offices, asking the question, "Where does your department stand?" Later another poster, "Over the top," showed the Kaiser crying, "Mercy, Kamerad!"

Out of 2,436 plant employees in Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester, 2,402, or 98½ per cent. bought bonds, and of those who did not, five were messengers and sixteen were away on sick leave.

In the Madison Square Local Commercial Office, 55 employees, 100 per cent. of the force bought $3,900.

These illustrations are not selected as being in any wise exceptional, but for the reason that they are only typical of what individual offices and departments of the company have done everywhere in subscribing to this third Liberty Loan.

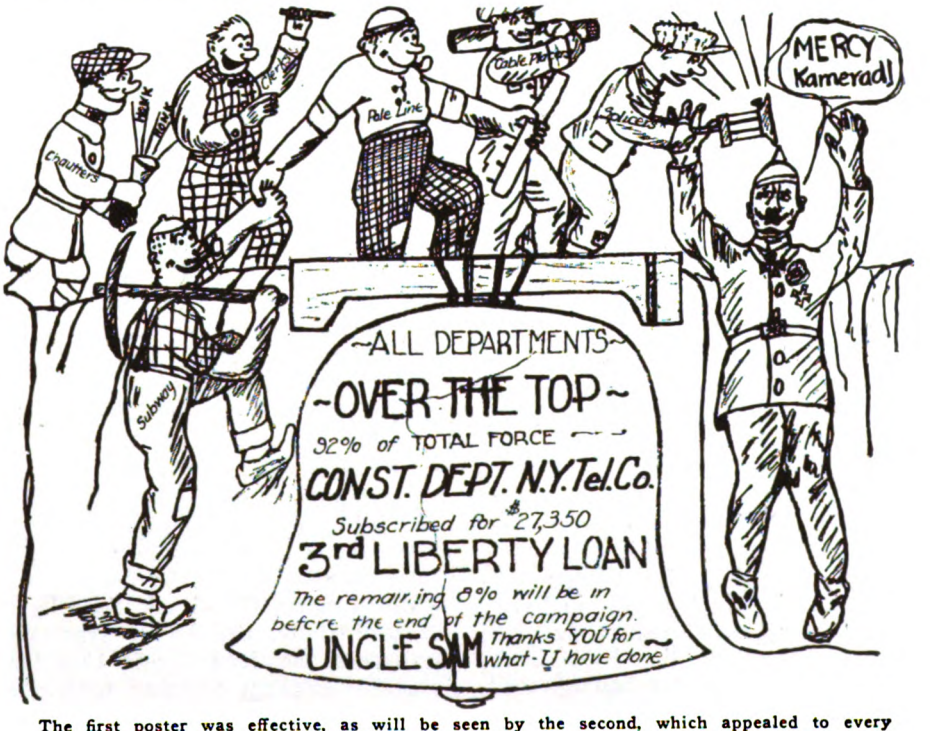
Equally active have our fellow employees been in securing subscriptions in the drive.

In all the buildings of the company Liberty Loan posters were prominently displayed, and in all local offices booths were maintained where subscriptions were solicited.

Our men were prominent as members of general and special committees, such as speakers, advertising, organization, finance, and parades; they took part in the speech-making as Four Minute Men, and both men and women engaged in house to house canvassing and performed important clerical work in connection with the loan. This was especially true of our commercial men.

Almost anything that a department accomplished in one division was matched in some way in every division, and telephone employees have again demonstrated their intelligence and ability in a patriotic way as they have always done in their work. They have "made good," which is the reason the public has confidence in them and in their occupation.

Two hundred men of the New York Telephone Company and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, constituting the Bell System unit, marched in the Liberty Day



The first poster was effective, as will be seen by the second, which appealed to every employee, showing the Long Island Construction Department going over the top

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Bell Telephone employees in New York proudly carrying their service flag past the reviewing stand on the steps of th Public Library, in the Liberty Day parade, April 26

parade in Manhattan on April 26. This was approximately one man for each 1,000 employees in the system.

Led by a Bell System banner and carrying the Bell System service flag with its 7,262 stars (there are now 10,180 stars on it), they attracted a great deal of attention and many favorable comments. All along the line of march, spectators on the sidewalks, and in the windows facing Fifth Avenue, tossed coins at the flag. While many fell short, it was found when the parade was over that the total amount of currency picked up was $63.84.

This money was turned over to Mr. Thurber for the Smoke Fund for our Signal Corps boys in France.

There was another parade in the Bronx, in which the New York Telephone Company's service flag, with its 1,351 stars, was carried by employees.

In Endicott, N. Y., there was a parade in which some of our employees took part dressed in Red Cross costumes, and about 150 of our employees marched in a parade in Syracuse. In Rochester, also, about 150 male employees of the New York Telephone Company marched as a unit in the parade, carrying a service flag and an American flag.

Review of 31st Regiment Corps of Cadets

Including a Company of Young Telephone Boys

"ATTEN-SHUN!" There they stood, the 31st Regiment Corps of Cadets, State of New York, a splendid sample of our future soldier boys, giving their first exhibition drill at the 71st Regiment Armory, on Monday evening, May 27.

They are the first fruits of the going into effect of the laws establishing a Military Training Commission in New York State, for the purpose of drilling working boys of sixteen to nineteen years of age.

We telephone people are especially interested in Company C of the regiment, because it is made up of over seventy boys employed by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, who, on the evening of the drill, wore their uniforms for the first time. Companies made up of boys employed by the National City Bank, the Chase National Bank, the Irving National Bank, and the New York Life Insurance Company, together with our Company, make up the regiment at present, which is the first regiment of working boys to be organized in New York City.

It does not take us as long as Germany to make good soldiers. In fact, these working boys, and the fifty thousands school boys who are training, are proving that to the satisfaction of everyone. Our boys have been drilling since April 2 last, and they rank among the very best. We are told that they are already as far along as their officers expected them to be at the end of their first year. They have been intensely interested, drilling from 5:45 to 7:15 once a week, at the 71st Regiment Armory, which is far from the homes of many of them.

Not only did they march with rhythm and vim, but they also executed the difficult manual of arms without a spoken command, in response to whistled signals, in a way that made the onlookers proud of them.

The review was made by Colonel William H. Chapin, Chief Supervising Officer, Military Training Commission, and was followed by dancing and the music of the 71st Regiment Band.

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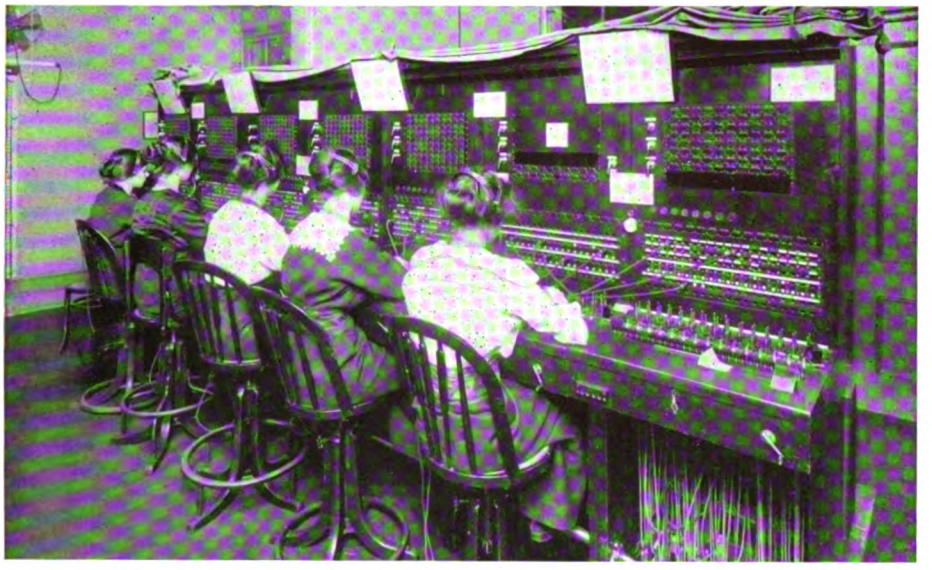
Carrying on the Telephone Business

"CARRY ON" is a phrase that has come to have an almost sacred meaning, not only to the soldier on the front, but to the civilian at home who feels that his share of the struggle is to support the fighters, financially, economically, and industrially. There is also another meaning to the phrase that is apt to be lost in the scuffle. What about "the rest of us?" While straining all our energies to the snapping point we forget that we, too, need service in order to be most efficient and, while we are willing to be inconvenienced, and to accept cheerfully the idea that we cannot come first in the consideration of war workers, nevertheless, we must live in the meantime.

Progress has not come to a halt just because "Billy Boche," as our boys call him, has to be exterminated. Strange as it may seem to the Huns, we have not found it necessary to stop in our tracks while waging war. We can do both, and "carry on" our peace as well as our war work. We can still look forward to the future and plan to meet the demands of the public as we did in the good old days before Germany went mad.

An excellent illustration of the way in which industry has kept up the pace, providing not only for war needs, but for the demands of an ever-increasing civil population as well, can be found in the three almost simultaneous "cut-overs" made by the New York Telephone Company on Long Island, one to meet the needs of the summer colony at Long Beach, another to give increased service to the residents of Huntington, and the third to take care of the rapid growth of the war activities in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. All three represent three interesting phases of the kaleidoscopic service rendered by the Telephone Company.



The switchboard which served Huntington well, but, becoming outgrown and inadequate, has been replaced by the most modern equipment

The new Central Office of the New York Telephone Company at Huntington, Long Island

Providing Increased Service for Huntington

IN the town of Huntington, Long Island, the population was increasing so rapidly that some time ago, knowing that demands for telephone service keep pace with the growth of the town, the New York Telephone Company planned not only to enlarge the Huntington Central Office equipment to meet present demands, but to provide for the future comfort of the residents. In view of this, feeling that half-way measures are but a makeshift at best, the Company, in spite of the difficulty of construction at this time, erected a handsome new telephone building at the corner of Main and Prospect Streets, which the operators declare and firmly believe is the "best office on Long Island." Miss Nellie Ferguson, who is chief operator there, gives that as her opinion, and describes it as being of red brick and white marble, built in colonial style. She says that it is surrounded by maple trees, which, we must admit, are most attractive, especially when combined with a two-story colonial house.

The interior of the new telephone building is as attractive as the exterior. In the rest room, which is furnished in various tones of brown, the fourteen operators that form the Central Office staff at Huntington at the present time, like to spend all their spare moments. Everything in the room is delightful, from the ferns to the furniture, not forgetting the girls!

The transfer of all Huntington telephone lines from the magneto switchboard in the Brush Building, at the corner of Main Street and New York Avenue, to a common battery switchboard on the second floor of the new telephone building took place on April 6.

At the same time the Telephone Company also transferred to the new Huntington switchboard all Cold

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Spring Harbor lines which have been served through a two-position magneto switchboard in the home of Mrs. Ada Schultz in Cold Spring Harbor.

The double transfer involved 550 Huntington lines serving 1,150 telephones, and 76 Cold Spring Harbor lines serving 164 telephones.

The new switchboard is located on the northwest side of the second floor of the telephone building, the rest of this floor being devoted to the operators' dining-room and retiring room. The switchboard is the first to be installed on Long Island by the New York Telephone Company's employees, this work ordinarily being done by the Western Electric Company. In this case, however, the latter company furnished the material and apparatus, and the telephone men did the installing.

The common battery switchboard replaces a board having eight magneto positions equipped with 640 drops and jacks for subscriber lines and 40 drops and jacks for trunk lines. The new board has eight operating positions equipped, and has a present capacity for serving 900 subcsriber lines and 800 outgoing trunk lines to other central offices. It can be enlarged to serve 4,900 lines, ultimately.

The operating force numbers thirteen and is in charge of Miss Nellie Ferguson, chief operator. In an average day the Huntington office handles 7,600 calls. Of these, 6,000 originate in Huntington, 800 are incoming calls for subscribers in Huntington, and 800 are toll calls. In the busy hour, which generally occurs between nine and ten o'clock in the morning, the traffic totals 860 calls. Of these, 700 originate locally, 90 are calls from other central offices and 70 are toll calls.

The new Commercial Office at Huntington, Long Island

The Cold Spring Harbor switchboard handles an average of 600 calls in a day, 100 of these coming in the busy hour between nine and ten in the morning.

Aside from the construction of the new switchboard there had to be considerable outside plant construction to link the new switchboard with the Huntington and Cold Spring Harbor telephone systems. This outside wire work involved building 3,696 feet of duct subway, laying 7,920 feet of underground cables, some of which contained 300 pairs of wires and some 600 pairs of wires, and stringing 22,176 feet of aerial cable.

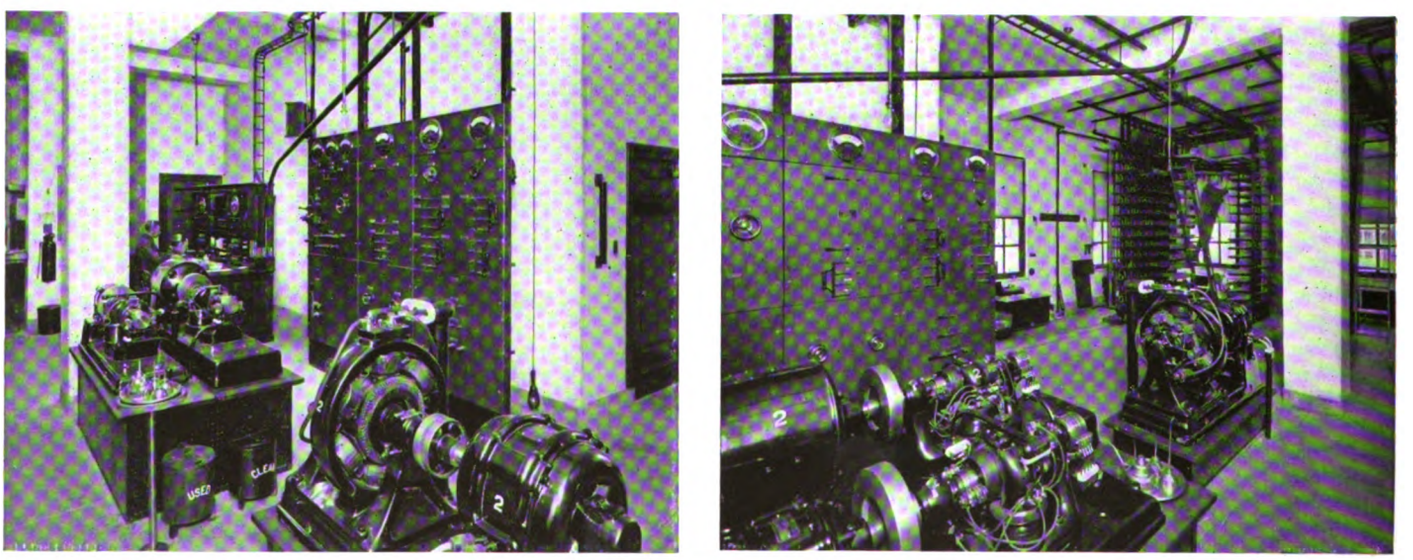
Subscriber lines were also thoroughly overhauled, and in some sections new aerial cable was installed to replace open wires on cross-arms and give added protection to the lines of communication.

The "Cut Over" at Long Beach

IN supplying the residents of summer colonies the telephone company has a second and still different problem In the first place, the population of these summer resorts is, for the most part, transient. At the end of the summer, when the days begin to get short and the charm of the seashore departs with the coming of chill winds, the greater part of the residents return home, the temporary gaiety disappears, and the few remaining ones settle down to a more or less humdrum but restful time, and wait for the return of the holiday season the next year. Consequently, the telephone traffic in the summer is very heavy, and in the winter very light.

It was to serve one of these colonies of summer people that the "cut over" was made at Long Beach, a fashionable summer resort on the South Shore of Long Island.

In order to be ready both in summer and winter, the Company has erected a beautiful stucco two-story building quite near the shore. Not only does this provide a central office that will adequately meet the demands of all subscribers, but it even provides quarters for the girls who are trans-



Two views of the Terminal Room in the new building of the New York Telephone Company at Huntington

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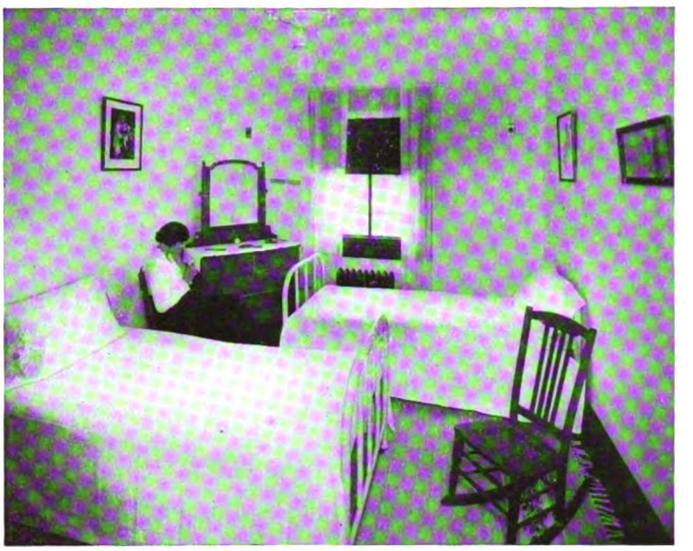
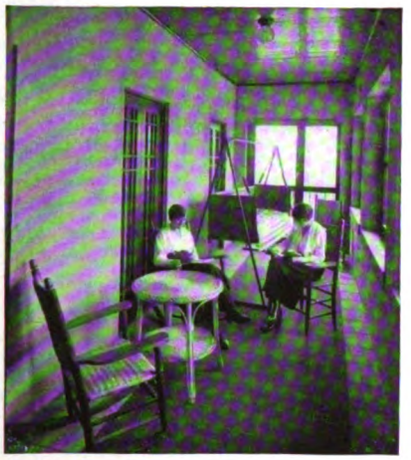
The home of the operators at Long Beach, not far from the ocean's roar



Each girl has her room-mate to whom she can whisper secrets when lights are out in the home for the operators at Long Beach



A cosy porch for a book or a chat for the operators at Long Beach

"Hello, Central, Can you tell me if the bathing is good today?" The Central Office at Long Beach where the operators keep the people in close touch with each other

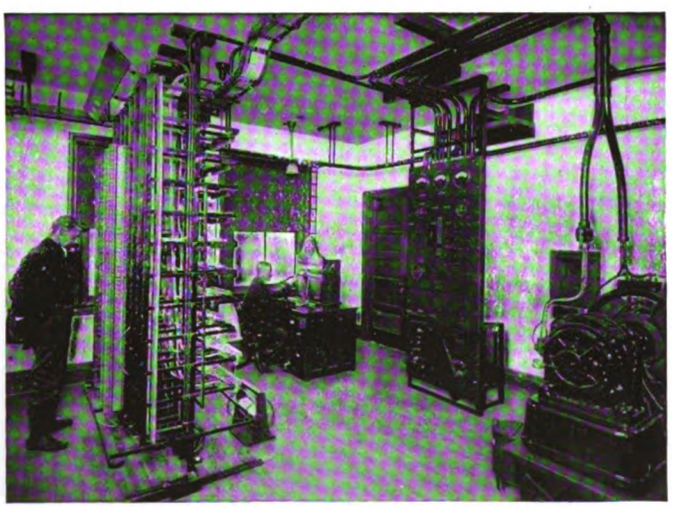
ferred there for summer work from other suburban offices.

And now, prepare for some news! The operators at Long Beach insist that their office is the finest on Long Island. When "doctors disagree," how are we to decide on the relative merits of these telephone buildings? That in Long Beach is smaller than the one at Huntington, but the girls assert that nothing prettier could be found, even though it is what is called a semi-agency.

Meals are supplied the girls by the agent, who operates the office on a straight agency basis during the winter, and who has ample quarters on the first floor of the building. Miss Catherine Grady, the agent, has charge of the night work and looks after the welfare of the girls who board there, with the assistance of her niece, Miss Loretta Cox, a former operator, and sees that they are happy and comfortable.

In the summer there are eight operators needed at the office. At present the staff consists of Chief Operator, Miss Louise Jensen, Miss Grace Reilly, Miss Blanche Day, and Miss Gertrude King, all of whom are directly supervised by Miss Tompkins, suburban chief operator, and her assistant, Miss A. E. Bennett.

The "cut over" was made under the supervision of Wire Chief Thomas Reynolds, of Rockville Centre, on April 20. The board is a five-position No. 10 switchboard, four A positions and one B. The initial installation consisted of 440 multiple and answering jacks.



The heart of the telephone system at Long Beach. The Terminal Room

As operators are not available in the immediate neighborhood, they are transferred from other suburban offices during the summer rush. In the new building, bedrooms are fitted up, so that the girls can live there and enjoy all the

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The joy of working at the seashore. The cool breeze blow into this quiet, comfortable Rest Room, provided for the operators who are "on duty" at Long Beach

"comforts of home." Everything that they need for their comfort and enjoyment can be found there, including a delightful porch and a sitting room that would invite anyone to pause awhile.

Is it any wonder that the operators at Long Beach think that their office is the finest, when they can take advantage of the bathing and other facilities for enjoyment of a popular coast resort under what one might call ideal conditions?

Navy Yard "Cut Over"

SHORTLY after the United States entered the "World War," the four-position No. 4 type switchboard which had been in service for some time past was increased to six positions, and in July, 1917, the addition of four positions was found necessary to take care of the rapid growth in activities.

Of the ten positions, one was equipped as a toll position, at which the private lines of the Navy Department terminated.

In October, 1917, it was foreseen that this ten-position switchboard would only take care of the growth until the spring of 1918, and a fifteen-position switchboard of the new 604 type was ordered, to be ready for use about April 1, 1918. This switchboard was to be equipped for 800 extensions, 100 trunks, 60 tie, and 20 toll lines. Two toll positions were provided for, to take care of the rapidly increasing toll business.

Space was obtained on the top floor of building No. 13, which is located about two blocks from the old office. In this space ideal terminal, operating, and retiring rooms were laid out.

An entirely new retiring-room was fitted out at the new location by the Navy Department and, wherever possible, Telephone Company's standards were specified. There is also a kitchenette in connection with the retiring-room where the operating forces can cook such articles as they may desire for their luncheon.

Traffic records kept in October, 1917, showed that the average number of calls handled daily amounted to 12,500, the busy hour load being approximately 1,650 calls. This amounted to a calling rate of about 3.6 calls per station during the busy hour.

It is estimated that the daily traffic now approximates 15,000 calls and the busy hour load 1,900 calls. The bulk of this load is handled between 8:30 A. M. and 6:00 P. M., when the Navy Yard activities are at their height.

About March 29, the new switchboard was delivered and almost all hopes of a "cut over" by April 13, (the date tentatively set), were given up; but this was before Foreman Unger, of the Western Electric, had been consulted. When we got to Mr. Unger, he replied that if he got his equipment when he wanted it, he would turn over the switchboard on time. This meant completing the installation within two weeks, a record time. Greatly to the credit of all concerned, it was done, and when April 13, came, Mr. Unger said, "I'm ready when you are."

A magneto line, on which three instruments were bridged, was installed between the two offices, one instrument in each operating-room, and one at the point where the "cut over" was to be made.

At 7:58 P. M. Lieutenant L. H. Griffiths (formerly of our Traffic Engineer's Office), representing the Navy, gave the official word that the "cut over" could be made. Connections which were up on the old switchboard were duplicated on the new switchboard, and at exactly 8 P. M. the new board was cut into service, leaving nothing but memories for the old switchboard that had tried so hard to "do its bit." The "cut over" was as nearly perfect as is possible, reflecting great credit on the various branches of the Plant Department, which had to do their work in about one-half the time regularly allotted.

At the time of the "cut over" there were in service 550 extensions, 74 trunks, 34 tie lines, and 18 toll lines. March 1, 1917, one month before we entered the War, there were in service 264 extensions, 15 trunks, and 15 tie and toll lines.

An amusing incident happened in connection with this "cut over" that is worth repeating. The day following the "cut over" the Yard Boatswain found his telephones out of order, and after waiting a short time without seeing anyone come to repair them, sent a messenger up to the telephone office to report the trouble to the operator. The messenger went to the old office, being ignorant of the "cut over," and found the switchboard deserted. He got back to the Yard Boatswain as fast as he could and reported that the operators had deserted their posts,—a very serious matter in War times. The report was forwarded along the regular channels and more or less excitement resulted for the moment. When the real facts were learned, a hearty laugh was enjoyed by all.

The operating force has increased from three operators in March, 1917, to a force at present of twenty-five, including chief operator, supervisors, and operators.

That Depends

"Telephones are great time-savers, aren't they?"

"Well, that depends upon who calls you up."—*London Answers.*

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Benefit for Signal Corps Company

TWO thousand members of the New Jersey Division, their wives, daughters, sweethearts, and friends,—all who could get into the Krueger Auditorium, including the law's allowance of standees, were present on Saturday evening, May 18, at a minstrel show and dance for the benefit of the Signal Corps Company E, 404th Telegraph Battalion, U. S. A.

Rehearsals began on April 18, and in the short period of one month, a performance was presented such as would do credit to professional talent.

The stage picture was most attractive. Grouped in tiers, flanked and topped by growing plants and cut-flowers, was the chorus, consisting of thirty-nine young women and seventeen men. The girls were dressed as Red Cross nurses, and the men were in khaki.

This attractive picture was not seen by the audience, however, until after the thrilling new film, "The Whispering Wires of War," had been shown on the screen. It aroused great enthusiasm, as many of the boys in the picture were recognized by their associates in the audience.

The singing of the chorus, led by an orchestra, was excellent, and the individual numbers on the program were so good, that they were repeatedly encored.

The big hits of the evening were so numerous, that it is hardly fair to discriminate. Miss Agnes Strain's singing of "Chin-Chin Chinaman," assisted by her dancing chorus of eight young ladies, all in Chinese costume, was one of the most effective numbers presented. Another was Miss Alice O'Connor's rendition of the trench song, "Faugh-a-Ballah." She made a charming young soldier boy, and her singing and acting were bewitchingly Irish.

J. Torpy, Jr., sang a song in his boyish treble which greatly pleased the audience, and Mr. Chester N. Weems, who was the interlocutor, did a stunt with the baton which would do credit to a regular drum-major.

Mention should also be made of the delightful way in which Miss Alice Axford sang the popular ballad, "Forever is a Long, Long Time."

Then there followed the dancing by the three Crawford Sisters, two of whom were former employees, and the third is still in the company. Their Scotch dancing, to the music of a bagpipe skillfully played by Piper Michael MacIntosh, was most attractive.

With the exception of two numbers, the rest of the program consisted of character songs rendered by various men in the organization, each of whom received liberal applause.

These two numbers were given by Mr. Charles Tamme, a former grand opera singer, now on the concert stage, who volunteered his services on account of his acquaintance with many of our telephone people, and by Mr. James Caffrey, former cashier in our Orange Commercial Office. He is also on the concert stage, and volunteered because he felt that he still belonged in the family.

The "Black-face Artists" and other comedians, afoot and on horseback, cracked jokes, sang songs, and performed antics to the great joy of the audience. They were: End men—F. Blaufuss, W. Walker, J. Cregg, F. McGovern, H. Handler, and W. Corbit; Lieutenant Nut, E. C. Bixel; and Holy Terrors, Wm. Behrmann (cymbals); J. W. Klauss (captain), and A. Reinhardt (bass drum).

The performance was under the general direction of Arthur F. MacHugh.

After the performance, the floor was cleared for dancing, which continued until an early hour the next morning. The success of the performers, both artistic and financial, is due to the ability and hard work of the executive committee, composed of men and women, who, like the performers, worked hard both before and after hours on the huge undertaking.

The entire house was sold out within four days after the tickets were placed on sale, and a substantial sum has been forwarded to the boys of Company E.

"Maplehurst 262 does not answer." By Orson Lowell, in *Judge*

[The original of this picture brought $1,200 at the Army and Navy Bazaar in New York]

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Organization Changes

Traffic Department

G. H. Merrill, division superintendent of traffic, New Jersey Division, who has been temporarily assigned to work in Washington, will resume his former duties.

E. G. Anderson, division superintendent of traffic, Hudson Division, temporarily assigned to work in Washington.

W. B. Morell, division superintendent of traffic, Westchester Division, appointed division superintendent of traffic, Hudson Division.

H. J. Schultz will, in addition to his duties as division superintendent of traffic, Manhattan-Bronx Division, assume general supervision of the Westchester Division with the title of acting division superintendent of traffic.

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Revenue Accounting Department

H. W. Lewis, chief toll supervisor, Harlem accounting office, resigned to enter military service.

Miss J. Bingham, senior toll clerk, appointed acting toll supervisor, Harlem accounting office.

Miss M. M. McCready, appointed acting chief toll supervisor, Harlem accounting.

Miss Helen Mitchell, senior toll clerk, appointed toll supervisior, Harlem accounting.

Traffic Department

Miss Anna M. Boltan, senior operator, Spring, appointed supervisor.

Miss Eileen Costigan, senior operator, Rector, appointed supervisor.

Miss Emma Dosch, senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed supervisor.

Miss Eleanor M. Glynn, night senior operator, Plaza, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Mabel J. Jordan, supervisor, Morningside, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Virginia Kottek, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Margaret G. Mara, senior operator, Orchard, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary E. McSorley, evening senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Eliz. M. O'Connor, senior operator, Lenox, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Edith G. Schmeichel, evening senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary Sullivan, supervisor, Cortlandt information, appointed senior supervisor.

Commercial Department

H. S. Cox, chief clerk, Riverside, transferred to supervising agent, Murray Hill.

A. F. Dickson, supervising agent, Murray Hill, transferred to Canal.

B. F. Disbrow, agent, Melrose, promoted to supervising agent, Tremont.

O. D. Donnelly, agent, Harlem, promoted to chief clerk, Harlem.

F. C. Kurz, supervising agent, Plaza, transferred to supervising agent, office of special agent, federal and war accounts.

F. W. Tinkey, agent, Riverside, promoted to chief clerk, Riverside.

H. B. Tuttle, supervising agent, Melrose, transferred to supervising agent, Plaza.

D. F. Twomey, supervising agent, Tremont, transferred to supervising agent, Melrose.

H. R. Wilson, supervising agent, Riverside, transferred to office of general commercial engineer.

E. W. Jackson, Jr., agent-in-charge, Brewster local commercial office, opened May 1 at Main and Park Streets, Brewster.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Veronica R. Corcoran, senior operator, Long Island toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Julietta Jacobsen, evening senior operator, Bedford, appointed evening supervisor, East New York.

Miss Marion B. Ketcham, evening chief operator, Yaphank, appointed chief operator.

Miss Colette T. MacNeil, evening senior operator, Bay Ridge, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Rose A. Rogers, evening supervisor, Greenpoint, appointed evening chief operator.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

Miss Winifred Egan, night Sunday relief operator, Orange, appointed night chief operator, South Orange.

Miss Mary Reagan, evening senior operator, Hackensack, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen Ward, evening senior operator, Elizabeth, appointed evening supervisor.

Commercial Department

John A. Tracy, Jr., appointed local commercial manager, Jersey City.

J. E. Touhey, appointed chief clerk, Newark local commercial office, succeeding John A. Tracy, Jr.

Plant Department

Peter Mortensen, cable placer, appointed cable placing foreman.

Frank J. Strassner, district plant engineer, Jersey City District, resigned to accept a position with the Western Electric.

John S. Williams, cable placing foreman, appointed supervising cable placing foreman.

Central Division

Traffic Department

Miss Emily Breithaupt, senior toll operator, Utica, appointed toll supervisor.

Miss Veronica Kinney, senior operator, Utica, appointed supervisor.

Miss Margaret Knobel, senior operator, Homer, N. Y., appointed supervisor.

Miss Mildred Rockwell, senior operator, Elmira, appointed evening supervisor.

Plant Department

O. A. Diamond, insideman, Oswego, transferred to Syracuse as insideman.

Western Division

Commercial Department

Miss Alida Knights, appointed agent-in-charge, East Aurora, N. Y., reporting to local manager, Hamburg, vice R. V. Hunter, resigned to enter military service.

Miss Bernice L. Rowo, appointed agent-in-charge, Dansville, N. Y., reporting to local manager, Mt. Morris, vice E. W. Hoy, transferred to the Rochester local office.

Traffic Department

Mrs. Mary A. Aldridge, evening junior operator, Genesee, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Ida E. Anderson, senior operator, Olean, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary M. Baumann, operator, Crescent, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Florence I. Butler, supervisor, Crescent, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Nellie Clark, information operator, Seneca, appointed senior information operator.

Miss Isabelle Engel, senior operator, Seneca, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Evelyn B. Faling, senior operator, North, appointed supervisor.

Miss Euretta V. Gilchriese, evening senior operator, Crescent, appointed supervisor.

Miss Julia Hall, evening senior operator, Oxford, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Amy E. Hallett, evening senior operator, Abbott, appointed supervisor.

Miss Ella G. Hanley, operator, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Lena Hassey, night operator, Medina, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Alice G. Hughes, senior operator, Seneca, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Edna E. Kagelmacher, operator, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Frances J. Keating, operator, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Emma Knoll, senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary Kuester, operator, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Jeannette Lynch, operator, Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Henrietta Luber, operator, Tupper, appointed senior operator.

Miss Helen A. Markowska, operator Seneca, appointed senior operator.

Miss Mabel V. Miller, night operator, Howard, appointed acting night chief operator.

Miss Edwardine M. Pyne, senior operator, Seneca, appointed evening supervisor.

Mrs. Agnes Shine, evening operator Olean, appointed senior operator.

Miss Mary Wagner, operator, Howard, appointed senior operator.

Miss Emily R. Wassinger, operator, Tupper, appointed senior operator

Miss Mae Werbit, operator, Howard, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Edna Williamson, supervisor, Olean, appointed evening chief operator.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

The following operators have volunteered for service in Washington:

Miss Florence Ahearn, Yonkers, N. Y.
Miss Margaret Ahearn, Yonkers, N. Y.
Miss Josephine Arno, Tuckahoe, N. Y.
Miss J. A. Boyle, Dobbs Ferry, N. Y.
Miss A. M. Conners, Tuckahoe, N. Y.
Miss G. M. C. Daly, White Plains, N. Y.
Miss M. Doran, Greenwich, Conn.
Miss Anna Hogan, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Miss Eva Johnson, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Miss H. T. Logan, Tarrytown, N. Y.
Miss E. L. Lowe, Mount Vernon, N. Y.
Miss A. M. Martin, Tarrytown, N. Y.
Miss G. E. McKeon, Yonkers, N. Y.
Miss E. Reichert, Mount Vernon, N. Y.
Miss M. Reilly, Greenwich, Conn.
Miss E. Rellstab, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Miss L. C. Sheehan, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Miss E. Tompkins, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Miss Anna Walsh, White Plains, N. Y.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

The following operators went to Washington in April:

Miss Zeta M. Breen, Glens Falls.
Miss Catherine E. Gleason, Albany (Main).
Miss Anna K. Jelinek, Albany (West).
Miss Gertrude A. Purdy, Schenectady.

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

JOHN F. METZGER complained to the Public Service Commission of Missouri that the Clinton County Telephone Company had discontinued his telephone service without just cause and refused to re-establish same. It appeared that the discontinuance had grown out of a dispute between complainant's wife and the company's local manager, the latter alleging that the former had used approbrious words and epithets in talking to him over the telephone, while complainant's wife alleged that the local manager had used abusive language to her.

The Commission held, that while the law imposed upon the company the duty to furnish telephone service to the public without discrimination between individuals, it likewise imposed upon the patrons of the company the obligation of proper demeanor when utilizing the service. The mere fact that a patron is paying a rental for telephone service has never been recognized by the law as granting a license to abuse the right of service. One of the greatest assets of a telephone company is prompt and courteous treatment by its employees to the using public, but when this character of service is given, the employees of the company will not be required to quietly listen to unwarranted abuse or discourteous censure, which may be traceable only to some unfounded whim or caprice of the users of the service. The Commission states that it will have no hesitancy in granting a telephone company the privilege of refusing service to a patron who persists in flagrantly violating the right of service. That, however, the facts in the case at bar did not warrant the discontinuance of service to Metzger since from the record it was evident that both parties had acted hastily and foolishly and without good cause.

Occasional Delays Are Unavoidable in the Telephone Business

IN disposing of the complaint of the city of Calexico against the adequacy and efficiency of the service rendered by the Imperial Telephone Company, the Railroad Commission of California pointed out that the apparent delay in responding to calls was frequently due to the fault of the subscriber rather than to that of the operator, since in many instances the subscriber after the completion of a conversation attempts to recall the operator without first having returned the receiver to the hook, thereby giving no indication to the operator that the first conversation has been concluded. The Commission states that occasional delays will of necessity occur, but that with reasonable care on the part of the subscriber to allow a reasonable time within which to clear his line before making a second call, the service will be greatly expedited.

Public Utility Commission's Power to Regulate Rates Not Limited by Local Franchise Contracts

THE Chicago North Shore and Milwaukee Railroad Company applied to the Public Utility Commission of Illinois for approval of a new schedule increasing its rates of fare. Objections to the proposed increases were made by various business organizations and by most of the municipalities traversed by the company's road on the ground, among others, that the franchises granted to the company by the various municipalities limited the fares to be changed.

The Commission, after a valuation of the company's property and an investigation of its receipts and expenditures, approved the proposed increase, holding among other things, that its power to regulate rates was not limited by any local franchise contract fixing rates, and that no contract could be made which assumed to surrender or alienate the strictly governmental power of regulation, which must continue in existence for the welfare of the public.

Public Utilities Cannot Fix Rates by Contract

THE Addison Gas and Power Company applied to the Public Service Commission, Second District, New York, for the approval of an amendment of the franchise granted to it by the village of Addison, which amendment permitted the company to raise its rates for natural gas from 45 cents to 55 cents a thousand feet. It appeared that the Addison Company purchased its gas from the Potter Gas Company, under an arrangement whereby the latter received in payment two-thirds of the price charged by the Addison Company to its consumers, and that the Potter Company sought to compel the Addison Company to increase its rates to consumers in order that it might obtain a higher price under said arrangement.

The Commission held that the village authorities had no power to regulate by franchise the rates to be charged by the Addison Company. That, moreover, the two gas companies had no power to fix the rates to be charged to consumers of the Addison Company by means of a contract for the payment to the Potter Company of a percentage of the rate charged in Addison. However, since it appeared that the Addison Company was not earning a reasonable return under its existing rates, the Commission authorized an increase from 45 cents to 48 cents per thousand feet, under which, it was expected that a reasonable return could be had.

The State's Power to Regulate Is Impliedly a Part of the Charter and Franchise of Every Public Utility

ONE Winfield, a resident tax-payer of the city of Logansport, Ind., sought by action in the Circuit Court to set aside as void an order of the Public Service Commission, authorizing an increase in the rates of the Logansport Home Telephone Company, on the ground that the franchise granted to the company by the city fixed the maximum rates to be charged and provided that in no event should such rates be increased. The Public Service Commission and the Telephone Company, which were made defendants in said action, demurred to the complaint, and the Circuit Court sustained the demurrers and rendered judgment against plaintiff, whereupon he appealed to the Supreme Court of Indiana.

The Supreme Court affirmed the judgment of the Circuit Court, holding that, while generally speaking such

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franchise contracts were valid, binding, and mutually enforceable when only the rights and interests of the city and the utility were being considered, nevertheless, where the public welfare and judgment of the State required it, the Legislature could nullify such contracts.

The Supreme Court held further that every charter granted by the state and every franchise, whether granted by the state directly, or by a municipality acting as the agent of the State, was granted in contemplation of the of the fact that the State had the power to regulate rates and that by implication such power of the State was written into every such contract.

Exacting and Inflexible Franchise Terms Are Often Against the Public Interest

IN approving the application of the Union Railway Company of New York City, for authority to construct an extension of its street railway, and to exercise the franchise secured therefor from the city of New York, the Public Service Commission, First District, New York, pointed out that the terms of the franchise were extremely onerous, and imposed upon the company drastic and expensive requirements. The Commission states that the resultant burden upon petitioner's revenue may arise some day to plague those who are insistent upon the maintenance of maximum service, and may become troublesome on future consideration of the company's rates and revenues, especially since in another proceeding before the Commission, the company claims that it is now only earning operating expenses.

It is pointed out that the imposition of exacting and inflexible terms, as a part of municipal franchises for the use of public streets, often has later consequences really adverse to public interests through curtailing the ability of the company to maintain its property and furnish service of first quality. The rigid terms of these local franchises have often, moreover, given rise to an impression of the undue harshness, rigidity, and unadaptability of public regulation, not at all attributable to the workings of the commission plan of public control.

It Is Contrary to Public Policy for Local Authorities to Fix Rates

THE Northwestern Electric Company applied to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania, for approval of certain franchise contracts entered into between said company, and the township of Denando, and other municipalities in Pennsylvania. Each of the contracts in question provided that the rates of the company should not exceed a maximum specified. The Commission held that it could not appprove the contracts in the form submitted, since the Legislature had established the Public Service Commission for the purpose of regulating the rates to be charged by public service companies, and had delegated to it the exclusive power to determine what were the just and reasonable rates for service rendered by such companies at a particular time. That it was clear that it was the intention of the Legislature to place these matters exclusively within the power of the Commission, and that, therefore, action by local authorities which attempted to establish the rates to be charged by such public service companies was contrary to the public policy of the commonwealth.

Combination Telephone Rates Illegal

THE Southwestern Bell Telephone Company applied to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission for permission to eliminate certain combination rates, which it had in force. The Commission granted the application holding that so-called "combination business and residence rates" were discriminatory and violative of the spirit and letter of the laws of the State. That, therefore, a different rate could not be made to a certain residence subscriber because he might also be a subscriber to a business telephone or vice versa.

Telephone Companies Do Not Run Information Bureaus

THE Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company complained to the Railroad Commission of Georgia that it was the practice of many of its subscribers to inquire of the company's operators the time of day and to ask for other information not connected with the furnishing of telephone service, and that, owing to the unprecedented demands for telephone service incident to the needs of the Government and to conditions arising out of the war, the extensive unauthorized use of the company's facilities by persons other than subscribers, and said general practice of calling upon operators for information and service not connected with the furnishing of telephone service, constituted a material interference with the rendition of efficient service.

The Commission held that the evils in question could be minimized by two rules which it authorized the company to enforce, i. e., (1) That the company instruct its operators to decline to answer inquiries for the time of day or like inquiries not connected with the furnishing of telephone service. (2) That the company should decline to place any flat-rate station in any store, office, or place of business where the same was freely and easily accessible to the public, or where the purpose or effect of the location was an invitation to the general public to use the telephone, or where its permissible and indiscriminate use was intended as a trade attraction. The Commission points out that the Telephone Company has not contracted to maintain and operate an information bureau, and that its subscribers are entitled to the use of its facilities for communication with each other only, and that, therefore, if some of the subscribers demand extraneous service of the operators, the legitimate and contractual service to which other subscribers are entitled is thereby interfered with.

Abnormal Prices for Coal and Other Materials and Prevailing High Wages Justify Increased Rates

IN September, 1915 the Public Service Commission of Massachusetts authorized the New Bedford and Onset Railroad Company to increase its unit cash fare from 5 to 6 cents, on condition that it sell 20 tickets for $1.00. After the new arrangement had been in force for some two years, the company applied to the Commission for authority to eliminate the reduced rate tickets and to establish a straight 6-cent fare, alleging that since 1915 the wages of conductors and motormen had increased about 13⅓ per cent., of car employees and linemen about 25 per cent., and of brakemen about 43 per cent., and that the prevailing abnormal prices for coal and other materials and supplies added to such wage increases, had so increased operating expenses that the company was not earning fixed charges.

The Commission authorized the discontinuance of the reduced rate tickets holding that, if the company maintained its property as it should and provided for depreciation, the proposed increase would certainly not result in an excessive return upon the investment.

Irate Intruder—"Look here! You've been in this telephone booth for half an hour and haven't said a word. Now come out and give me a chance."

Occupant of Booth.—"I am talking to my wife, sir."—"Milestones"—*Rochester Post-Express.*

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"Lafayette, Here We Are"

Through remote French villages resounds the unaccustomed tramp of American soldiers. But a little while ago and these men were in the quiet of their homes in a peaceful country. Today, in a strange land, they are facing the world's bloodiest struggle.

Pershing at the tomb of America's old time friend months ago reported, with true soldier eloquence, "Lafayette, here we are." And it is for us of the great American democracy to rally all our might to the support of our army and our allies.

From our shores to the battlefields of France are thousands of miles which must be bridged with ceaseless supplies to our troops. Every day calls for action here, no less than there. Cooperate! Sacrifice! These are the watchwords sent over the land by the Government.

In this national effort the Bell System has served with every other essential industry in order that communication, manufacture and transportation may be kept at the peak of efficiency to provide the munitions, ordnance and supplies so urgently needed.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

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NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine, place a one-cent stamp on this notice, mail the magazine, and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers or sailors destined to proceed overseas. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW

AMERICAN SIGNAL CORPS MEN STRINGING TELEPHONE WIRES IN A RUINED VILLAGE IN FRANCE

The task of the Allies is not only to rid the world of German "Kultur," but after the victory to efface the devastation it has wrought

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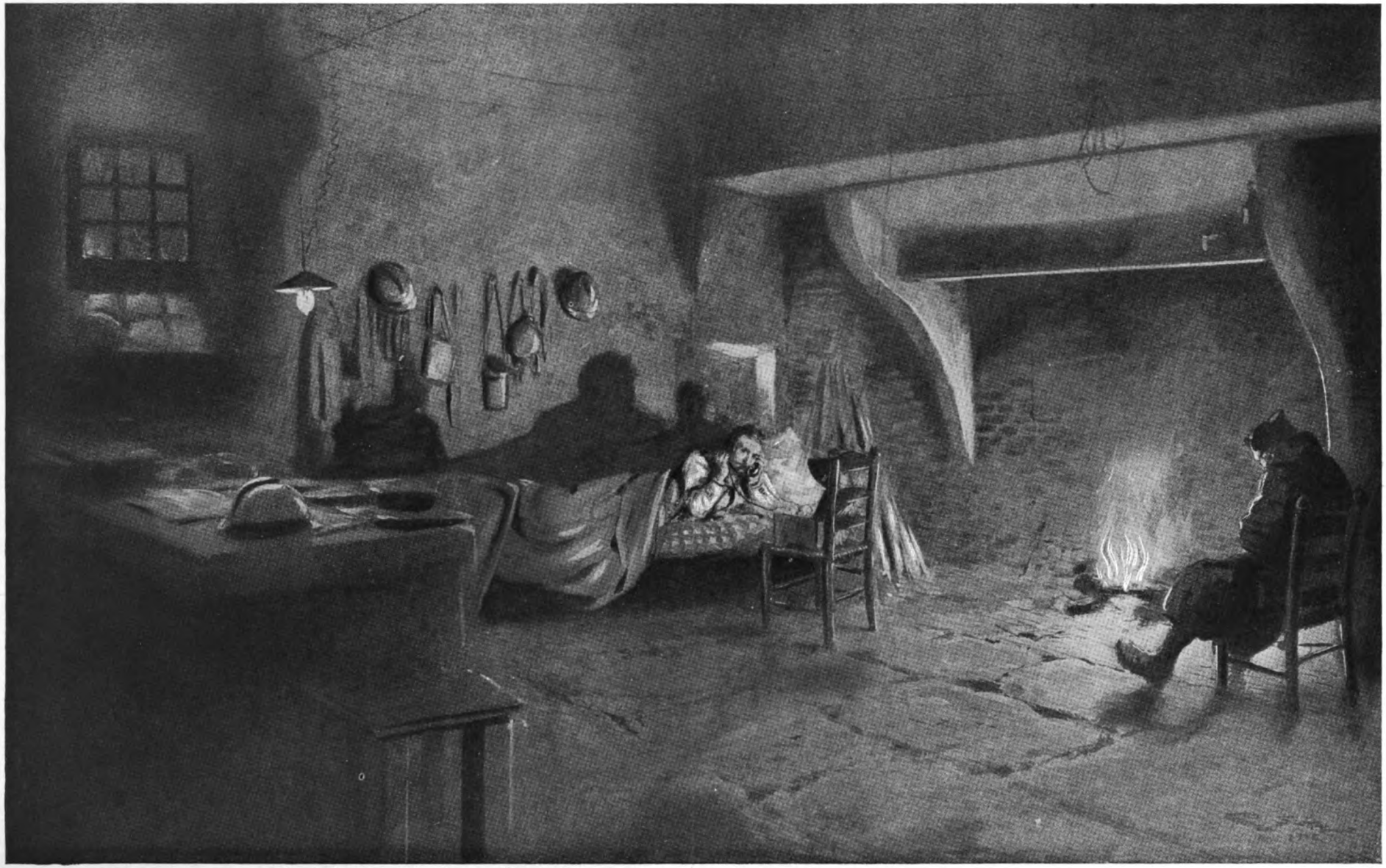

A CALL IN THE NIGHT

TELEPHONE MESSAGE FROM THE FRONT FINDS THE STAFF OFFICER EVER READY FOR ACTION

It is night, and in the shell-battered, deserted farmhouse the "Officier de Service" on duty for the night is lying on the little cot, trying to snatch a few moments of sleep. The telephone rings. In an instant he is fully awake, and receiving a message from the front line, or transmitting orders. By the fireside dozes a runner, in cap and overcoat, ready to rush off with the hastily scribbled order at a moment's notice.

Drawn from life by Georges Scott. Reproduced from *L'Illustration*, Paris.

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The Telephone Review
New York July 1918

J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
15 Dey Street
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Published monthly by the
New York Telephone Company
U. N. Bethell, President
Walter Brown, Secretary-Treasurer

Thanks From The Red Cross

IN appreciation of the generous contributions from members of the Bell System, Mr. Henry P. Davison, Chairman of the Red Cross War Council, has written a letter which Mr. Vail is passing along to his two hundred thousand associates:

23 Wall Street,
New York.
June 10, 1918.

Dear Mr. Vail:

Some day if we can start early in the morning, I would like to lay before you the contribution of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company to the American Red Cross. I believe that no corporation has approached your Company in the contribution to our work; it has been at times a contribution which money could not buy and has therefore been beyond value. The fact that you had the spirit at the outset and helped us then, when we most needed it, as well as since, should be a source of great satisfaction to you.

I am not writing this with my pen, because I am too old to write the letter with my hand. If I were as young as you and could write as well as you, I would not resort to dictation. I hope you are very well and that I will see you soon.

Very sincerely yours,
H. P. Davison.

Theodore N. Vail, Esq.,
195 Broadway,
New York.

THE Red Cross, in its drive for $100,000,000, received the most enthusiastic support from the employees of our Company. The total subscriptions throughout the country amounted to about $170,000,000 from more than 47,000,000 contributors.

It is a source of supreme satisfaction, that while our employees bought Liberty Bonds so liberally, they also gave to the Red Cross so generously—and worked for it, as well.

Colonel Carty said in his speech, which we printed last month, "The Bell System is 100 per cent. American," and it is proving this to be true, not only in its work and service, but in the way in which it meets every appeal to support the war and all the activities which are connected with it.

The letter printed above, from Mr. H. P. Davison, chairman of the Red Cross War Council, is sent to us by Mr. Vail, who seems to think it will be appreciated more than anything he can say.

We may take it, therefore, as also an expression of appreciation from our great leader, and this gives us the opportunity to join, on behalf of the whole Bell organization, in the tribute which Mr. Davison pays to him.

Independence Day

THE spread-eagleism of Fourth of July orations which was so popular a few years ago, has given place to utterances of the grim determination which has aroused the nation to preserve the liberties set forth in the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

If the War of the Revolution had been lost by us, and the Declaration of Independence had become a "scrap of paper" (such as Germany has declared her solemn treaties to be), then the world would never know what would have been lost if the tyranny of George III. had crushed the spirit of freedom that inspired our ancestors.

But now we know what it would mean if the worse tyranny of the Kaiser were forced upon us by our failure to preserve the inheritance which our forefathers bequeathed to us.

For one hundred and forty-two years July 4 has been celebrated throughout this country as Independence Day. Do not let us, this year, of all years, forget the significance of this anniversary. If the Kaiser wins, we shall go back more than one hundred and forty-two years in our liberties. And when we win, as we shall by the effort and sacrifice of every true American, we must still remember the Declaration of Independence, and return to the "form of government to which we have been accustomed," and under which we have enjoyed the "life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness" that have been the envy and emulation of the world.

"Sun" Compliments Telephone Girls

AN editorial in the New York *Sun* of Sunday, June 16, is devoted to letters from our telephone operators with General Pershing's army in France, which we printed last month. More than a column in length, it quotes from a number of the letters, and says in conclusion:

> What a feeble letter writer is stupid or self-conscious man when his efforts are compared with the naive observations of woman! Still, it must not be forgotten that in these cases the writers are from a profession which requires more than ordinary intelligence.

No compliment to the entire sisterhood of telephone operators could be more worthily bestowed.

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Our Answer to Mr. Vail

WE have had one month to consider and put into practice Mr. Vail's admonition to conserve not only money, but material and manpower in our work; and the reports of every department of our Company ought to show a decided improvement for June over previous months. With the start thus made, it should be clearer how future economies can be introduced and greater efficiency gained. Soon the habit will become fixed, and thrift and conomy in our work will be as easy as we have been forced to make it in our private affairs.

Mr. Vail has not often addressed the employees of the Bell System directly, as he has done in this instance, and it may be taken as certain that the communication which we printed over his signature last month would never have been written if it had not been necessary.

The importance of it is so great that we print it again as follows:

CONSERVATION A PATRIOTIC DUTY
BY THEODORE N. VAIL

This is a time when conservation is a prime duty. The country, to do its part in the great struggle for the world's liberty, needs not only money, but material and man power. These things it is a patriotic duty to save.

The Telephone Company, to perform its duty, must operate its plant at the highest efficiency so as to avoid as far as possible further use of money and material and labor in the construction, maintenance, and operation of plant, and still give the service which is so important a factor in the nation's operating machinery.

Each officer and employee, in doing his best for the Company and saving for it, is doing his best for the nation, and he is doing his best for himself. To the extent that any individual increases his efficiency, he increases his value, and, moreover, the opportunity for increases in pay lies only in increased revenue or decreased expenses. To the extent that the value and the power to reward it are increased, the reward is increased.

The standard Mr. Vail holds up to be maintained, it will be noted, is to "still give the service which is so important a factor in the nation's operating machinery." The service which the New York Telephone Company gives is the best telephone service in the world, and nothing—not even economy—must be allowed to lower the quality of that service.

No employee would be following Mr. Vail's admonition who saves time or money at the expense of the quality of work that is performed.

"Each officer and employee," he says, "in doing his *best* for the Company and saving for it, is doing his best for the nation, and he is doing his best for himself."

Officers and employees, according to their responsibilities, can perform a service of tremendous value by bringing this matter constantly to the attention of their fellow-employees, and those in supervisory positions particularly have an opportunity to use every ounce of their ability and get credit for it.

Cheerful Home Letters

UNCLE SAM has made a very successful bridge over the Atlantic Ocean into France, and it is this great bridge that keeps those at home in touch with the men who are fighting our battles. The space on these transports must be conserved in every way possible. There is always room, however, for the greetings and messages from home. Words of encouragement or cheer—that is, a real newsy letter—will quicken the heart much more than gifts and material comforts.

W. Frank Persons, Director of Civilian Relief, of the American Red Cross, on his return to Washington after four weeks with the troops, said: "Our soldiers can not come home for visits; therefore, as far as it is possible to do so, we must take the American home to them." It is his opinion that cheerful home letters, *with plenty of snapshot pictures,* not only will check loneliness and low spirits among America's fighting men at the front, but actually will make them less liable to shell shock.

It is our privilege to keep them constantly in touch with American life as we are living it from day to day in city, town, or rural district. Don't forget to write—and don't postpone it.

A Barrage of Gold

"WHEN we are going to advance and make a raid on the enemy trenches," said one of our young veterans just returned from the front in Picardy, "our batteries lay down what is called a barrage. That is, they make a curtain of fire between us and the enemy, under cover of which we can go forward, practically unharmed. Our advance is timed so that we proceed as the curtain of fire does. According to the accuracy and power of this curtain, our advance is covered or exposed.

"And now," he continued, "we boys who are fighting on the bloodiest battle-field that the world has ever known, have one request to make. Will you put down a barrage for us?

"We want you to put down a barrage, not of shell-fire, but of gold—a barrage under which we can advance with faith, and strength, and confidence, knowing that we shall not want for the things that are vital to our success.

"You may think that you cannot do much to help win the war, but that is not so. Every thrift stamp you buy, every economy you effect, every time you deny yourself one of those things that mean so little to you and so much to us, you are protecting the boys that are fighting for you and yours, and you are bringing them nearer to the goal toward which they are struggling.

"Won't you do this for us? Every little bit helps, even if that bit is only a twenty-five cent thrift stamp. Remember—a golden barrage!"

Buy War Savings Stamps until it "Hurts the Kaiser."

(Committee on Public Information)

AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN FRANCE RECEIVING LETTERS FROM HOME

What treasure can there be greater than a "letter from home"? One would make a bright spot in the dullest day, for everyone of our boys longs to hear all the news from the beloved "States."

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Telephone Most Vital Phase of Business

THE announcement of the New York Telephone Company that on June 3 it would discontinue answering requests for the "time of day" met with immediate acceptance, both by the press at large and the public. It was another evidence of the willingness of our friends, the public, to respond, without question or criticism to any suggestion from the Company which was designed to improve the service. Some newspapers, it is true, did refer humorously to the subject, but their comments were directed more to the passing of a long-established practice, and usually with a commendation for the Company's new rule.

The announcement stated why the rule was made. It said:

We have gladly furnished this special service in normal times. War conditions, however, have greatly increased the demands for *necessary service*, which makes it imperative that telephone facilities be conserved in every possible way.

It would not be surprising if one unexpected benefit to the public resulted from the adoption of the new rule. It has been noticed that in communities where the number of inquiries for the "time of day" has run high, there has been a correspondingly large number of "line is busy" reports. It is impossible to make the assertion, or to deny it, but it is easy to conjecture that while subscribers have been asking Central for the "time of day," they have been wanted on the wire by other subscribers, and that the discontinuance of the inquiries will at least reduce the "busy" reports.

In a letter addressed to the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company, dated May 9, 1918, the Chief of the Telephone and Telegraph Department of the Massachusetts Public Service Commission wrote:

"The work of this department has always been based on the belief that *telephone service is the most vital phase that enters into the prosecution of every form of business, and it is along those lines that the work of the department is directed.*" (The italics are ours.)

The letter further says:

"The giving of time to subscribers is one of the courtesies that has grown up with the service"; that "the matter of furnishing such a service is entirely within the discretion of the Company," and that "I think it only fair to say that your decision to eliminate this practice, at least for the present, is along the right lines, and will be approved by all subscribers who want to enjoy a reasonable standard of telephone service."

The Commission in Georgia has ruled that the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company instruct its operators to decline to answer inquiries for the "time of day," pointing out that "if some of the subscribers demand extraneous service of the operators, the legitimate and contractual service to which the other subscribers are entitled is thereby interfered with."

All of this is in the interests of the public, and primarily as a war measure. When it is realized that in New York City alone, a quarter of a million calls a day are only to ask Central the "time of day," and that this represents one call in every fourteen, the benefit of the new rule in the public interest immediately becomes apparent. For the entire Company, the total number of inquiries for the "time of day" equals 5.7 per cent. of the daily incoming calls.

In one residential district in the Bronx, one call in every eight was a "time" inquiry; in a Brooklyn district, one in every six.

The figures for "time" inquiries, "busies," and, of course, "don't answers" are all higher in residential than in business communities or districts.

Another prevalent use of the telephone lines (which at times seriously has interfered with what the Georgia Commission terms, "the legitimate and contractual service to which other subscribers are entitled") is for the purpose of asking Central where the fire is, or what team won, et cetera.

Recently the following lines appeared in the New York *Sun*:

CURIOSITY CALLS

We ask for the time of the clock
And Central's attention we claim
To tell of the fire on the block
And ask for the score of the game.
Such idle demands on the wire
The business important forestalls,
So telephone companies dire
Have barred curiosity calls

We ask of the angels to tell
The time of the end of the war,
And where is the fire that befell,
And beg them to tell us the score.
No answer returns from the sky,
So mighty the work that enthralls.
It may be the Central on high
Has banned curiosity calls.

McLANDBURGH WILSON.

When the demands on the telephone system are so urgent and pressing, made by the Government, by industries engaged in war activities, by vital business and other essential enterprises, and by the public at large for other necessary purposes, avoidance of the less essential uses of the telephone becomes a patriotic duty of the first order. Telephone employees can set a good example in their homes.

Yesterday and To-day

As It Was

"WHAT is all that smoke down by Farmer Jones's place?" says Farmer Brown to his wife, as he chances to look down across the wide intervening fields and pastures in a village where houses are half a mile or more apart. After a consultation it is agreed that perhaps the barn of Farmer Jones is on fire, and the horse is hurriedly harnessed, neighbors collected, and an improvised bucket brigade starts off to the rescue. By the time the kind neighbors arrive, the barn is in ashes, the distraught owner, without assistance, has saved nothing, and the loss probably makes him a poor man. "If we only had a quicker means of communication to get help, this catastrophe might have been avoided," a helpless neighbor suggests.

As It Is

ON May 10, 1918, the home of Mr. Patrick Ferriter, east of Florence village, near Camden, was discovered by a neighbor to be on fire. Without wasting a moment, all the patrons of the new farmers' telephone system were called on the telephone, and asked to send assistance. They all responded promptly with pails, and in a short time the fire was put out. Without the use of the telephone the fire would have been beyond control before a sufficient number of men could have been summoned in any other way. Mr. Ferriter has the telephone and the quick-witted neighbor to thank that he has a home left, instead of a heap of ashes.

Soldier Telephone Men Aid in Wreck

THAT telephone men are equal to any emergency has again been proved by their handling of the situation when a train filled with soldiers on their way to embark for France was wrecked eight miles from Camp Upton.

The newspapers said: "Fortunately every man remembered that he was a soldier, and his first thought on scrambling out of the wreck was for his less fortunate comrades." Luckily, but not surprisingly, the Signal Corps men who were on the train remembered also that they were telephone men, and they immediately climbed the poles that ran alongside of the railroad, and tapped the wires. In almost less time than it takes to tell it, they had rigged up a field telephone outfit, and were sending calls for help out in all directions, which brought assistance speedily from both Islip and Camp Upton.

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These members of the Telephone Gardners' Club, at Syracuse, have banded together and rented a farm. One way of fighting the Boche

There will be plenty of food now that the Syracuse telephone folks have such a splendid war garden. F. J. Chesterman in foreground, "the man with the spade." The "other man" is H. Van Der Bogart

The Telephone Society

Hudson Section

THE forty-third meeting of the Hudson Section of the Telephone Society of New York and Chapter Meetings were held as follows:

Glens Falls Chapter, Glens Falls, Wednesday, May 8; Kingston, Poughkeepsie, and Newburgh Chapters, Poughkeepsie, Thursday, May 9; and Main Section, Albany, Friday, May 10.

These were the annual meetings of the year and election of officers for the local Chapters and the Hudson Section were held. The following officers and Executive Committee were elected for the year 1918-19:

HUDSON CHAPTER

Chairman, Harvey Smith, New York Telephone Co.; Secretary-Treasurer, H. R. Rupley, New York Telephone Company; Executive Committee, M. R. Bradt, R. S. Brust, J. H. Dodge, H. E. Hawley, Willis Hills, S. B. Mooers, New York Telephone Company.

GLENS FALLS CHAPTER

Local Chairman, H. A. Beaton; Local Secretary-Treasurer, A. B. Cowdery.

KINGSTON CHAPTER

Local Chairman, A. L. Harder; Local Secretary-Treasurer, H. W. Smith.

NEWBURGH-POUGHKEEPSIE CHAPTER

Local Chairman, J. E. Drum; Local Secretary-Treasurer, W. H. Bentley.

AT the Chapter Meetings, elemination contests were held and teams selected for a competition at the Section Meeting in First Aid Work.

The Safety Contest at Albany was judged by Dr. Wiliam A. Howe, and the teams were made up of the following employees:

Poughkeepsie: Edward Flavin, Roscoe Andrews, and Alfred Malthouse, first prize.

Albany: Frederick C. Potter, John E. Keiss, and John Ahern, second prize.

Glens Falls: John S. Armstrong, John W. Church, and Walter C. Wakely, third prize.

The first prize in the contest was $7 worth of thrift stamps to each member of the team, the second prize was $4 worth of thrift stamps to each member of the team, and the third prize was $3 worth of thrift stamps to each member of the team.

Following the election of officers and First Aid Contest, a buffet luncheon was served. The meeting adjourned after a very enjoyable evening.

Eat No Wheat!

WHAT have we been asked to do towards winning the war? Count up! Eat war bread, save money, economize on certain kinds of food so as to release them for our fighters, give a few dollars to various works rendering inestimable service,—and that is all! Are we asked to go hungry, even for one meal? Are we supposed to be ragged, to do without the necessities? No, indeed. All that we have been asked to do is to stop our promiscuous spending of money for things that we do not really need,—to cease spending money, just because it is in our pockets, and to feast ourselves upon "plentiful remainders." Is it much that we are required to do, when measured up with what our men are doing freely?

Now we hear that with all our vast prospects of grain harvest, we shall still be unable to supply the Allies with food unless we make still greater efforts. It is not enough to economize a little; we must do much, much more. Four hundred million bushels of wheat a month must go to the Allies. There is only one way to accomplish it, and that is for a great number of us to eat no wheat whatever for two months,—until the next harvest.

Then, too, there is the problem of meat. For the past year we have been having meatless days, and have tried to conserve the meat supply by substituting chicken and fish. Now comes a more urgent appeal to us, requesting that we substitute fresh pork, bacon, hams, and sausage for beef products, thus coöperating with the Government, which finds that changing conditions of production from season to season, and of shipping, make it imperative that we help in this way to meet the increasing demands of our growing army.

No, these men were not in a train wreck, or anything of that sort, and that is not a curious mob behind them. The gentlemen in the foreground are the three winning teams from Poughkeepsie (1st prize), Albany (2nd prize), and Glens Falls (3rd prize), in a First Aid competition at the Hudson Section meeting of the Telephone Society, May 10, 1918

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And They Won't Come Back Till It's Over "Over There"

WE are getting there! Millions of tonnage, and thousands of men, all on their way to the big fight! Others already arrived, fighting and making a glorious name for themselves at the front, are proving to our Allies the earnestness of our endeavors in the present war. Still others there are who, though they carry no guns, though they make no charges, hold in their hands the vital power of the army—its telephone system.

American soldiers in France, serving trench mortar. Notice soldier at telephone awaiting word to fire *(Committee on Public Information)*

In every branch of the service are our men from the telephone company, each fighting in the way that seems to him the best—in the infantry, artillery, air squadrons, submarines, destroyers, signal corps battalions, and practically every other conceivable unit.

Richard A. Spencer, who was at one time a member of the Accounting Department, Disbursements Division, describes his journey to France, and his life in camp after his arrival there. He also speaks of how little real information about what is going on can be obtained by the men, and asks for some from those who write him.

Proud of the Bunch

HERE is a man who does not attempt to disguise his pride in the work that the Americans in France are doing. He leaves no doubt in our minds as to the quality as well as quantity of what these telegraph battalions are doing to help our cause:

France, 1918.

DEAR MR. CRAMPTON:

We are fast Americanizing the highways over here, and it certainly looks good. That crew of installers, splicers, helpers, and clerks, with a few linemen, comprising this company, has certainly developed into a winner. They are all linemen now, and good ones at that. I would be willing to put them up against the best of them and stake my life on the result.

For example, we were rushed considerably on one job, and only thirty-three men were available. They ran the coffer for the second arm with all its transpositions, placed brackets, and tied in at the rate of three and one-half miles per day. Four of the thirty-three men were chauffeurs at that, and you know how much help a chauffeur is off his truck.

Major Shearer received a letter from General Russel commending this company on a fast bit of work under trying conditions.

You will gather from the above remarks that we don't hate ourselves and you are right. We don't. I'm proud of the whole bunch, but just the same, I'll be glad to hit the trail for U. S. any time the word is given.

J. M. MELLINGER,

A Soldier's Job

E. J. HEENAN, formerly of the Traffic Engineers' Department, describes his checkered career in the army, where, according to his letter, there is little chance of getting sluggish through staying too long in one place:

France.

DEAR ANDREWS:

Am going to start right in and get to the list of questions that you sent, and if I can think of anything that might be of interest, will add it at the end.

BEING A GROUND HOG

Your first—What am I doing? At the present time I am performing the duties of a clerk in the Signal Office of Advance Section Headquarters. This job I hope will soon see another doing it. My conscience smites me when I think that I am probably doing a perfectly good field clerk out of his only means of showing his patriotism at from $1,200 to $2,000 per year and the chance of imitating an officer. The work that I liked the best was that which holds the title of Ground Hog. The duties consist of all of the following sciences of outside telephone construction: pulling No. 12 copper wire along roads, through swamps and woods, over hills and vales, and through vineyards and orchards. We generally found the hardest pulling in the last two places named—especially when it was seasonable. The other arts of the game are: digging pole holes in granite quarries, lugging poles and cross-arms up young mountains, making W. U. hands joint (this was before we received our sleeves), and being in the way generally.

NEXT, A LONGSHOREMAN

I was in a fair position of learning the difference between a Buffalo grip and a Deadman when I was suddenly sent back East to do a little longshoreman work on the docks.

My duties there were to look out for all property consigned to the Signal Corps,

Sergeant W. F. Hommick and his "gang," erecting a pole line somewhere in France

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G. F. Helms, Plant, M.-B.-W. Div., and Secretary of the Telephone Club, now field secretary, Y. M. C. A., "Somewhere in France"

and have it sent along *toute de suite* (toot sweet) to its destination. The work itself was performed mostly by colored gentlemen from the South and Huns who were fortunate enough to be prisoners of war. For some reason or other the colored boys had not heard of my reduction to the ranks and still insisted upon calling me Sergeant.

The mean part of the job was to keep my eyes open and see that they did not mislay any cased limousines or portable field telephone outfits. These articles are about as big as Room No. 301, and my job there was a cinch while it lasted. Was finally called back to my company, and after ground hogging it for three weeks on snow and mud, each one foot deep, was sent to where I am now located. Am now anxiously awaiting another call to return.

Hope that you don't think that these various moves were due to unsatisfactory service. It's the policy of the Army, and if it were not for them, some of us might get the idea that we were home and start placing pegs about to hang up our clothes. The general idea prevails that as soon as you get settled it's time to move.

MAKING MOTIONS

Question No. 2—How much French do I know? Regret to say that I am sadly neglecting it. In fact, I don't understand a word of it, when I am riding in a first-class compartment of a railroad train on a third-class ticket. I manage to get along pretty well, though, for I can make all the motions. My restaurant French, though, is quite fluent. The only mistake I ever made was in ordering snails through lack of proper pronunciation. It is now necessary for us to bring our own bread, butter, sugar and milk along with us, if we wish to enjoy them while dining out. Such occasions occur, but rarely.

Your next three questions I will bunch and try to answer seriously. As to how I like the life, I presume I may be permitted to say it will do, or in other words, we have to live it whether we like it or not. Personally, though it is one hundred per cent. better than I ever thought it would be. We have better and more food now and better barracks to live in than we had when we first arrived. Of course, we don't always have luck enough to land into a town with barracks, but even billeting in opera houses, churches, town halls, stables, and barns is not so bad once you make up your mind to make the best of it. I don't mind saying, however, that a bed with two white sheets and a pillow filled with feathers, instead of a pair of hobnails wrapped up in a coat, would be more welcome. I do not believe we have a kick coming.

I believe that the company is still getting plenty of tobacco. I have, however, been detached from it for the past two months, and am therefore not lucky enough to get in on it. Have absolutely no kick, though, for I have always been in a location where it could be bought either at a Y. M. hut or a canteen. I do not believe that two more popular brands of tobacco could have been selected than those sent by the Funds from the Company.

It's a great life if you don't take it too seriously.

Check Your Bicycles!

IF, by any chance, you think that the day of the bicycle has long since gone by, you are very much mistaken. Private Daniel Petrucelly, a former member of the Engineering Department, assures us that if you want to "locomote" in France there is one approved way of doing it—the bicycle. Don't be incredulous! Read what he says:

Sunday Afternoon,
Somewhere in France.

MY DEAR MR. CARPENTER:

I received your package of smokes yesterday and want to thank you very much for thinking of me "over here."

We are in a beautiful city and far from any danger. It is a busy town and reminds me of New York, especially the railroad station, which looks like the Pennsylvania depot.

We are located in a building by ourselves and are very busy, as the Motor Transport Service plays an important rôle in this war. I am connected here as file clerk in the Administrative branch and am getting along well, since I did the same kind of work in New York. In February I was recommended for a Corporal, and up to this writing I haven't it yet, but it hasn't discouraged me in my work. On the contrary, I have worked harder.

I suppose you have been to France, and I imagine you know by now that "the houses here are all of stone with red tile roofs," a sentence that I have used countless times. Also they have trolley cars operated by women, and the favorite means of locomotion is by a bicycle—rich and poor alike. It seems that every home is incomplete without one. They even have racks in every café, and they bring the bicycles inside to check them, as you would your wraps at a theatre.

Private Petrucelly's poetic appreciation has been sharpened by his visit to the other side. As a lover of verse, he sends this ditty, written by one of the men in his company:

The Service of the Rear

When this cruel war is over
  And the boys go marching home,
I'm afraid I'll be an outcast
  And forever have to roam;
When they show their wounded chevrons,
  And service stripes of gold,
And they tell admiring lassies,
  Of valorous deeds and bold,
I'll be missing from the circle,
  And no one there will hear
How nearly I was a hero
  In *the service of the rear.*

I am an S. O. R. Boy; also an S. O. L.,
I never pulled a trigger, or sent a Boche to h——
I never saw a dugout, in fact was never near,
For I performed my duty in *the service of the rear.*

When we passed that glorious statue,
  That our liberties uphold,
We looked forward to the future,
  With ardent spirits bold.
We prated of Democracy,
  And Freedom of the Seas,
And how we'd get the Kaiser
  And bring him to his knees;
How we'd face the German Legions,
  Without a trace of fear,
But alas we had not reckoned with
  The service of the rear.

For I'm an S. O. R. Boy; also an S. O. L.,
I never saw a battle or heard a screaming shell,
The only Hun I ever saw was Prisonnier de Guerre,
A-working just like I was in *the service of the rear.*

I've done some Provost duty,
  Took a turn in Warehouse "A,"
Hit up the docks at midnight,
  When the front was short of hay.
I've set up locomotives,
  Then built a mile of track,
Chopped wood and dug some ditches,

This is the way James F. Quinn intends to ride to Berlin. The French lads and lassies probably see only a cloud of dust when he is on duty in France

Just to keep from getting slack.
But though I've done my duty,
  As I saw it true and clear,
I will never get a medal
  For my service in the rear.

For I'm an S. O. R. Boy; also an S. O. L.,
But I've always done my duty, and I tried to do it well,
So I hope that at the *"fini"* they will grant my wish so dear,
And let me kick the Kaiser in the service of the rear.

Husbands, Take Notice!

"After forty-one years, this little note, clipped from the *Danbury News*, 1877, still looks pretty good," writes one of our men, and this is the clipping:

"With a telephone and a wife a man ought to hear all that's going on."

The times do not change so much, after all, do they?

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M. S. E. Forseman and John J. Bolt, in France, formerly Manhattan-Bronx Division, who intend to Americanize Germany

James J. Young, U. S. Marine Corps, formerly in the Western Division Commercial Office

Some of the boys of Co. E, 404th Battalion, Camp Dodge, in fancy "clip": J. Sefcik, H. Jenkins, Newark; N. D. Connors, New Brunswick; G. Loftus, Perth Amboy; W. J. Bond, Westfield; T. Halpin, J. L. Byrne, Newark; J. F. Donahue, Private Wilson, New Brunswick; Private Oliver, Cresskill.

A group of men, at Camp Dodge, of the 404th Tel. B'n., composed mostly of New York Telephone boys. They have made a record in establishing telegraph lines of communication between Camp Dodge and Boone, Iowa

Sad? No, Indeed!

Somewhere in France, 1918.

DEAR MR. DEAS:

Am over here, as you no doubt have heard, and am very glad to say that I am over here doing my bit for Uncle Sam. Of course it is nothing like the dear old U. S., but just the same we are over here to beat the Huns and we are going to do it no matter how long it takes.

The French people can't realize we are so happy, because they think that we ought to go around with a sad look on our faces, but far be it for the Yanks to be sad, as we know that we are going to beat the Huns good and proper.

The trolley cars over here run on the left side, and the people walk on the left side of the streets, which is very queer to us.

It is a very pretty country over here and we get the full benefit of it, as we are outdoors almost all the time. We play a great deal and try to amuse the boys as much as we can.

Last week we played for some of the boys from Up-State Division who are doing very good work, and they gave us a nice automobile ride to their quarters and back.

The farmers here are far ahead of our farmers, as they have lots of their crops full grown and they certainly look good. As for wild flowers, you can't beat the place, as the fields are just full of every kind that grows.

DANIEL E. LOREY,
Formerly of the Long Island Revenue Accounting Department.
Headquarters Band, 59th Art. C. A. C.,
Amer. Ex. Forces.

FROM A FORMER MEMBER OF THE PLANT DEPARTMENT, MANHATTAN-BRONX

France, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

My luck! I was one of the lucky ones to receive my package from the well-wishing and never-forgetting employees of the New York Telephone Company. Many thanks to them all!

This outfit must carry its pep, storm or no storm, and I am sure it need not be heralded by me, that Co. E, 407th Telegraph Battalion, has given an honest-to-God account of itself. We are commonly known as the flying squadron, and by doing things on time and ahead of time, we have kept the standards flying in our branch of the service and upheld the prestige of the best battalion. I don't want to seem egotistical. Please forgive me if I do. It is just ten months since we entered the training camp prepared to do our bit, and we have come to realize that it can be done in other ways than being in the trenches or in the fray. We work in rain, snow, sleet, or sunshine, sleep in barns, under canvas in mud, or in places where we could easily count the stars in the coldest and most disagreeable climate I ever knew anywhere.

It is no small job. We are fit, and, I am sure, doing our bit in France building communications for bearded war-worn soldiers, mud-stained, blood-stained, nerve-racked men of steel who must teach Kaiser Bill.

Sergt. JOHN J. BOLT,
Co. E, 407th Telegraph Battalion,
A. E. F.

With the French Army

France, 1918.

DEAR ———:

The enclosed paper was dropped by a German plane flying over the town my outfit was billeted in, behind the French line. (N. B.—Paper was missing in letter.) Of course it is part of the German propaganda. I guess if they had known that there were American troops below, they would have heaved us a few bombs instead of harmless papers.

My regiment has been absolutely cut off from the rest of the American force and has been turned over to the French Army. The men still wear the good old O. D. uniforms, but look very queer in French helmets (which are fashioned after the old Roman Casques—much better looking than the Chinese-looking tin hats the Americans wear), and they carry the great long Lebel rifles and needle bayonets the French use. The nearer to the front we got, the more terrible this war seemed.

I expected to be lost any night in the depths of the feather-bed in my billet—on failing that, to die a most horrible death smothered by the great eider-down over me. Without the slightest exaggeration it was a foot and a half thick! The shortage of wood is our only real worry. Every night I'd squander a couple of precious candles trying to persuade the green wood in my tiny stove to burn—and usually succeeded. The open hearth in my room had been blocked up, and a queer open-faced stove substituted to save fuel. It generally accomplished its purpose for, after fussing around trying to make the thing burn, you'd give it up in disgust—thereby saving wood!

And then we are on the French ration—which includes a litre of wine per man per day—which increases in ratio to your rank. A Captain gets four litres a day!

I had to leave all that and come way back here with about a dozen others to the First Corps School for a month's training in special courses. I have left the Supply Company and will probably land up in a machine-gun section, under the French organization. Under their system, each regiment has a telephone officer, but as it only carries the grade of Lieutenant, I'm not so keen for it.

I ran my first French field telephone the other day—just before I left for here. Imagine me running field wire with a gang of ex-15th New York Infantry men—in a steel hat!

Lieutenant HERBERT J. SLINGO,
369th R. I., U. S. (15th N. Y. Inf.)
Par B. C. M., Paris, France.

[Lieutenant Slingo was a member of the Plant Department, Manhattan-Bronx, before he entered the service.]

A Detached Man

DEAR ———:

Well, I am in France, and hard at it. I have already traveled over a good part of France on detached service, and I am going to move again in a day or two to a pole-treating plant. I surely am getting an experience that will make me very useful to the Company if I return alive. That is a thing a man can not put his mind to much, as we are here to-day and in the trenches tomorrow; such is the life of a detached man.

So far I have been able to keep my health and get plenty of sleep, good food, and warm clothes, and enough work in the day to make me sleep at night.

I am not with any telephone men except once in a while. They seem to be training me for all the jobs in the Signal Corps, from building lines, putting in central offices, looking after telegraph offices, maintaining French lines, to treating poles.

Hoping the "boches" will come to their senses and give up, I am

Sergeant J. M. ROCHE,
Signal Corps, U. S. A.,
Base Section 4, L. of C., A. E. F.

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A Glimpse of the Fighting Spirit of Our Boys at the Front

LIEUTENANT VALENTINE C. JACOBS, formerly of the Traffic Engineering Department, has been to the front and back and has returned once more to the firing line, where he is getting inside information as to how to "strafe" the Boche, for whom he has not any great liking. He tells us about how the game of war is played by our boys and by our Allies.

From One of Our Veterans

DEAR MR. J. P. ANDREWS:

Thought you might be interested to hear from "over here," so will write you a few of my experiences.

Had a rather uneventful voyage over, though we all felt a bit ticklish going through the war zone, and land looked mighty good to all, for more reasons than submarines, too.

After landing I was sent to an Infantry Weapon School for six weeks, with French and English officers as instructors. The grind there was harder even than Plattsburgh. When I had completed the course of instruction I was assigned to the 101st Infantry of the 26th Division, known over here as the "Yankee Division," owing to the fact that the whole division hails from New England. They are a remarkably fine bunch of men, and on their first trip into the trenches made an enviable record for themselves. The division came out of the line last week, and at this writing nearly all are back in again. My own regiment is in the line now; my battalion is in the support line, and will probably go into the front line in a few days, depending, of course, upon the activities of the Boche. Just now it is unusually quiet. We've been in support now several days, and in that time not a single shell has been dropped anywhere near us. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that the Boche is, at this writing, devoting all his energies along the British front. I would like to go into more details about our work here, but the ever-present censor, with his million and one eyes, might land on me with both feet; already I have bordered on arousing his wrath.

Emil Mann on his travels through France last winter

The last time we were on the line we were in a much livelier sector. When we went in, it was very quiet, but we weren't in very long when H— broke loose. I think it was more or less due to our own nervousness as we did a lot of promiscuous shooting, and the Boche, thinking we were starting something, started a "strafe" of his own. The first night in we sure were all nervous, every post out in front looked like a Boche, and every lump of earth looked like a squad of them. The second night, however, wasn't so bad, and we gradually became able to distinguish between our imagination and Fritz himself.

UNDER FIRE.

The most ticklish job up there is repairing our barbed wire, especially when a star-shell goes up. I haven't the literary ability to describe one's feeling during these tense moments, though they seem like hours. I never went on any patrol work as yet, but would much prefer it to mending wire. One has such a helpless feeling while working on the wire, while on the former one has some chance of concealment and opportunity to fight back.

As I said before, our boys are remarkable under fire, but they still have a lot to learn. The most important thing they have to learn is caution, but to date they will not get it into their heads that it is so necessary. I could mention—but for that demon, the censor—incidents that happened and an hour or so after their happening seemed funny, but during the moment of occurrence anything but funny.

One thing that happened (I think that is within the limits of censorship), coming out of a communication trench, is typical of their lack of caution. A Boche plane,

Officers at mess in France. Uncle Sam makes a good host, serving a good old Yankee meal for our own soldier boys

flying about three hundred feet above us, tried to enfilade us with machine-gun fire. Of course, he had about one chance in a hundred of hitting us, and was merely trying for moral effects, but do you think those birds would stay down and hug the side of the trench. Not them! About twenty men in my platoon started taking pot shots at it, though they might as well try to hit the moon as to hit an aeroplane with an ordinary rifle bullet. Those twenty men are now paying their penalty for "pot-shooting" by doing "kitchen work."

The last night we were in, the Boche gave us a gas-shell barrage, but not a man in our company suffered as much as a burn—due to the training that the men have had in the mask adjustment. They threw over "Mustard" gas, mixed with Phosgene and Chlorine.

The "Mustard" gas is the worst of the three, and hangs around for days. It even gets into the clothes, and we have to be very careful long after the attack. We use Chloride of Lime as a neutralizer against the "Mustard." While the Boche uses a lot of gas, he gets more than he sends, and of a far more deadly kind, too. The British use a most terrible gas on them, and I think the Boche would like very much to come to an agreement to end the gas entirely.

THE FOOD QUESTION.

Prior to my being assigned to this outfit I was sent up on the French front for a few weeks' observation. It was absolutely amazing the way the French run that particular sector and also the Boche. Things have been at a standstill there for over a year. There wasn't a thing that each side didn't know about the other. If the Boche shelled a certain portion of the French line, the French would send over a few to a certain section of the Boche's. One particular point was shelled every morning at 7:10 for six minutes; after that one was as safe there as at home. It seems almost ridiculous how methodical everything was up there, but the French officers explain that they are merely playing the game, that it was useless to start anything until something big was planned.

A. Palk, gunner in the 71st Battery, Canadian Field Artillery, in France

The British are just the opposite, as they are always keeping the Boche on the jump. One dug-out on that sector, where the officers messed, was the most palatial place—concrete lined, well furnished, real honest-to-goodness linen, china and silverware and mural decorations around the walls as only the French can decorate. The food they give out is wonderful—every evening a full-course dinner and the usual wine—they never drink water. Then I went up on our own front. The officers' mess consisted of mainly bacon and "hard-tack," with an occasional stew and, strange to say, I enjoyed it more than the sumptuous food put out by the French. When up in the front lines we get plenty of food, except when our communicating trenches are under fire and the carrying parties cannot get through. Then we are "out of luck." Our battalion was lucky and did not experience such ill-luck, though one battalion went without their "chow" for fifty-two hours. Of course they had their reserve rations with them, but one needs hot food up there.

I haven't run across Ed. Heenan in my travels, or any of his battalion. Every time I see any Signal Corps men I always inquire, but have met with no success to date.

I know this letter is a very jumbled up one, and without any sequence of thought, but conditions here are far from ideal for writing a letter, and trust you make allowances. Some time, when I get back to a soft camp, I will try again.

Most sincerely,
VAL. C. JACOBS, Lieutenant.

P. S.—Would greatly appreciate if you would send an occasional TELEPHONE REVIEW. V. C. J.

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The Right Viewpoint

IN this "hurly-burly" of a world today when everything seems to be at "sixes and sevens," and apparently everything and everybody must undergo a general housecleaning and readjustment, it is well to remember that the wise person weighs the situation carefully and calmly before acting.

That which is hiding just around the corner, and that which appears on the horizon, perhaps as a mere speck or only a suggestion, always has a more rosy glow than the figures in the scene nearby. Whether there is a new hat, a new dress, or a new form of service, a new position, to which the eye is attracted in the distance, it is always the same story—there is no denying it—"How much better that one seems than the one I possess." Yes, but is it true? Go up closer—acquire it, if you will,—and soon that, too, takes on the same dingy, sordid look of familiarity with the faults exaggerated and the virtues dwindling into oblivion.

Stop a minute and get the right perspective of your work. Stand aside and look at it from the outside viewpoint. Hope and alertness are the greatest allies of ambition, but they often lead astray into the fallacy of making every offer, every change, seem an opportunity for greater service or advancement. He who accomplishes the most for his country and himself is the one who stays at his post and follows the line of work for which he is trained, not flitting hither and yon from one horizon to another like a gipsy, always in quest of a different vista.

Don't forget to count your blessings when you are taking an account of stock. If you are a telephone operator, remember that the field of telephone operating is a broad one. It affords a chance of advancement, both in actual material advantages and in training and character building; it has advantages of surroundings, and last but not least, it is a work where romance and adventure are prone to poke their way in very unexpectedly.

From the first hour a girl enters the telephone service she is given the chance to advance. The first step is a course of instruction of four weeks, in which the student is paid while learning and is assured of immediate employment upon the completion of her course. In any other occupation it is not only necessary to pay for the initial course of instruction, but often the girl must wait for an opportunity of employment to open up to her before she becomes established. As telephone operating is skilled work, and is practically universal in its standards, it is possible for anyone who has qualified herself for this work to go practically anywhere throughout the country and secure immediate employment. Promotion comes step by step after a girl has showed herself a competent and able operator. The titles of senior operator—supervisor—senior supervisor—assistant chief operator and even chief operator are sign posts on the road that lead ahead in the future for those with ambition.

Health and Happiness Come First

TELEPHONE operating is a profession that men cannot fill. It is hardly possible to imagine a man at the switchboard giving a courteous and gracious reply to the subscriber who calls "Party W" and insists later that he said "Party R," or who clicks the receiver in a volley of thuds, because "It can't be possible that that line is still busy." No, a man at the switchboard would give vent to a series of dots and dashes. It is distinctly a woman's sphere.

The patience, gentleness, and kindness of disposition that women seem to monopolize reaches to every part of the land over the wires from the operators at "Central" and make the world just that much more happy. Women also have an advantage over men, as a general rule, in the mental alertness, self control, and the dexterity of their actions. It is such traits which are the necessary qualifications of operators, enabling them to fit right into their environment. So often a girl in business finds herself as a round peg in a square hole. This is not so with a girl as a telephone operator. She has found her vocation. It is an occupation that does not detract from a girl's natural qualities, but it develops her capacities.

A girl with high purposes and eager interest looks for a place where there will be congenial co-workers and agreeable surroundings. The Telephone Company has more than measured up to the requirements of the most fastidious in both these respects. The associates of an operator will have had to pass the requirements which have enabled her to take up telephone operating as her permanent employment, placing all on an equal basis and insuring coöperation and friendliness.

The rooms in which operators work are large, light, and well ventilated. They are orderly and free from noise. Telephone operators are better protected than any other class of working women in that they are in no direct contact with the public. Rest periods and rest rooms provide for amusement and relaxation during the working day. Cafeterias in the larger offices, where plenty of wholesome food in good variety is provided at cost, makes for good health. Incidentally, the prices are much below those which are asked for similar commodities in public eating places.

There is one feature of telephone operating which should make a strong appeal to young women seeking employment, namely, the sickness and accident disability benefits which are conducted by the Telephone Company. Employees who are absent from work because of sickness or accident are paid their regular wages during a certain period according to this plan, and all this is done without any assessment whatever of the employees.

An Operator Who Makes Mistakes

ANOTHER point which occupies no small place in the picture of our work is the advantage of the permanence of a position in the telephone business. A young woman recently wrote a letter applying for reinstatement as an operator. She said she had been lured away by what appeared to be a better position, but within three years she had changed from one place to another four or five times, and at last realized the mistake she had made in leaving. She was willing to start at the bottom again, having learned to appreciate the attractiveness of operating and the advantages of employment in the New York Telephone Company, when she saw the work in perspective.

The girl at the switchboard has her full share of responsibility and that is often where romance and excitement step in. When a tiny voice sobs over the telephone, "I want my mama, my dolly is burning up," the operator who receives the message is of more value than all the firemen and doctors in the city in saving that child's life. Or, again, a voice vibrating with excitement shouts over the line, "The dam has burst—warn those in the valley." Burglars, fires, floods and hurricanes are often a part of the day's work for an operator. She is the first and most essential link in emergency relief work. Often when

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a person is in desperate straights the telephone looms up as the one means of aid, and the cheery voice that answers the individual "S. O. S." means hope. Into what more competent hands can anyone place their distress when trapped by a fire, burglar or sickness, than those of an operator, who by one touch of her finger obtains help in the most remote parts?

Patriotism and Loyalty Mean Success

WHAT more patriotic duty is there than that of keeping the channels of communication open for industry in these days of great government rush orders? The lines stretch from factory to factory, office to office, camp to camp. "Food," "uniforms," "guns," "ships," "aeroplanes," et cetera; these are words that are carried over the wires many hundreds and thousands of times a day between Government officials and captains of industry, and the great corps of workers that carry out the instructions. Every minute gained in these war preparations means lives saved. That our brave soldiers may be provided with the resources and equipment of which we may be proud, that they may march ahead to the fulfillment of the purposes of us all,—this is part of our task.

Duty to our country and loyalty to the Company which provides as many advantages as it is possible,—these are obvious impulses of our work that sometimes slip into the background of our mind, but they are ever ready to spring into the foreground, binding us all into one large unit, The New York Telephone Company, fired with the inspiration of service.

A Dog Story

In connection with the Safety First Movement and Accident Prevention the following report, taken from a recent accident blank, might interest some members on the various "Safety First Committees":

"———— was working on a ladder against a 12-foot retaining wall when a dog on the opposite side, which is about level with the top of the wall, looked over the wall and growled at ————. This startled him for an instant, and caused him to spill some hot solder on his wrist, slightly burning it."

Just what to do to prevent such accidents we do not know.

You might call this a dog story.

W. P. BODINE,
Plant, M-B-W.

Irate Intruder.—"Look here! You've been in this telephone booth for half an hour and haven't said a word. Now come out and give me a chance."

Occupant of Booth.—"I am talking to my wife, sir."—"Milestones"—*Rochester Post-Express.*

Bringing Up Reinforcements

Contributed by L. W. Lamb, Division Toll Line Supervisor

IT may be wondered how, in the face of so many problems, the telephone company is able to keep up its lines with practically uninterrupted service, year in and year out. One of the secrets lies in the work of the Toll Line Maintenance gangs, who are everlastingly on the watch for any trouble that may arise.

For instance, in May, 1918, an incident occurred in New Jersey which will give an idea of how this watchfulness often prevents trouble, and, as in this case, cures it.

As Foreman Fineout and his gang of workers were clearing defects and trimming trees along the New Brunswick-Hamesburg Trunk Lines, one of the property owners approached them, and announced:

"I am going to blast out some of these old stumps, and clear up my ground a bit."

Foreman Fineout, knowing that many things may happen when an amateur tries his hand at blasting, and knowing that a stitch in time saves nine, decided to have two men on the job when the trunks were blasted out, in case any of the telephone plant should be accidentally injured by the flying debris.

For a time everything went as it should. Then one particularly obstinate stump refused to be dislodged. The farmer had an idea. If one charge of dynamite was not enough, why not use two,—or, better still, three? No sooner said than done. Without a word to the linemen, or to anyone else, he placed three charges, lit the fuse, and withdrew to behold the result. But he saw more than he expected to see. Imagine his amazement, and that of the innocent, unsuspecting linemen, when, with a great report, the entire stump hurtled through the air, clean through the open wire trunk lines! Alas for the service!

"Business as usual" was going on at the Asbury Park Central office, when suddenly a row of lights flashed up on the switchboard, indicating trouble "somewhere in Jersey." The Wire Chief was immediately notified, and, although he knew of the proposed blasting operations, he decided to send out a scouting party to locate the trouble in case it should be at some other place.

Repairmen covered the line with a Ford car, and coming to the break, found the two men working at it, but apparently unable to make much headway. The scouts hurriedly drove back to Foreman Fineout, who was working with the rest of his men at another point along the line. On explaining the situation to him, they picked up the rest of the gang, and raced back to the scene of the dynamiting, where they restored the wires temporarily. When the blasting operation was completed, they made permanent repairs, and returned to their regular job. The reinforcements had "stopped the gap, and repaired the lines."

Eheu! Fugaces Annos

They used to call me, years ago
When all the world was young,
When field and forest, lake and stream,
Replied with joyous tongue;
They called me to the village green,
The dance, the husking bee;
To stroll beneath the harvest moon,
To sail the summer sea.
They call me just as often now,
But when the 'phone I seize,
A smiling voice,—alas, unseen,—
Responds, "Excuse it, please." —F. G.

REINFORCEMENTS
If there's any trouble on the line, these boys are sure to ferret it out. Nothing escapes them.
A Jersey toll line maintenance "gang"

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Fourteen of the girls in the Fourth Unit of Telephone Operators for France were trained by the New York Telephone Company. They are, left to right: *Top Row*—Misses Vivienne Hamel, New York; Louise Maclin, New York; Mary C. O'Rourke, New York; Louise L. Armand, New York; Madeline Batta, New York; Camille Rieder, New York; Berthe Arlaud, Brooklyn, N. Y. *Front Row*—Misses Lucienne Bigou, New York; Celestine Leguia, New York; Marguerite Chenot, Manhasset, L. I.; Beatrice Francfort, New York; Mrs. Eileen Munro, Washington, D. C.; Misses Edmée Le Roux, New York; Ida B. Lanz, Brooklyn

Pioneers in Service

Telephone Operators Taking Their Place in the Service of Uncle Sam Overseas

HURRAH for the fourth unit of telephone operators, already taking its place in France beside the other three, and making things hum "over there"!

The cable "Arrived safely," is brief, to be sure, but what it really means to say is, "Sixty more French-speaking American girls have arrived in France to operate war switchboards for Uncle Sam and our boys." They have volunteered to do this as their contribution toward winning the war, because they feel that it is the thing that they can do best. As one of them put it, if they didn't go they would feel like slackers, and would be slackers, just as much as any man who shirked his duty. More are ready to go, but they are not needed at present, and are continuing their training over here.

With minds filled with the end to be attained, these girls and those who preceded them, together with those who are to follow, have traveled from the four corners of the United States. As can easily be imagined, they have all had some of the edges rubbed off them by contact with other groups.

Since every little town and every big city in the United States produces a different type of individual, these girls, when they meet, cannot help being surprised at the ways and characteristics of one another.

As the time goes on, and they work together, drilling and marching, exercising and getting physically fit for their work in France, under the direction of Miss Candace Hewitt, an officer of the Women's Emergency Service Corps. As they learn to come to order at the command "Attention!" and to act as a unit, they become more and more welded together, until we hear comments like that in Miss Grace Banker's letter, printed in the June REVIEW, to the effect that group lines are fast disappearing. The uniforms, they say, are also partly responsible for this, reminding the girls as they do of their common purpose.

Pioneers in Blue

THESE operators hold a unique position in the army, being pioneers in their line. Many things in connection with their status in the army are not well defined as yet, but will evolve with time. Need for such a unit was felt the call went out, and the need was met. Minor details were left to time to be worked out.

For instance, after an elapse of several months, some changes have been made in the uniforms.

A summer outfit, consisting of a blue alpaca suit of the same cut as the heavy one, with a straw sailor (very becoming, by the way) and a little aviation cap, has been enthusiastically welcomed by the girls, who have felt the disadvantage of possessing one suit only, and that a very warm one for a hot day. Dark blue silk shirtwaists to supplement the white ones filled a much-felt need, and simplified the laundry question considerably, while rubber cloaks, arctics, and other accessories also helped to make up a complete, comfortable, and good-looking wardrobe.

That the girls already there have begun to have experiences of all kinds, and are delighted with things so far, can readily be seen from their letters to friends:

A Chicago Operator in New York

We're in the barracks holding on tight because there's a general "hunch" in the air that we'll be moving on in short order. The barracks were full. We all feel that tonight will be the fatal night. I assure you that packing is the order of the evening and excitement reigns supreme. We're happy, and in one way, we feel sorry.

Our nights and days have been full, full. I haven't had more than five hours' sleep since we left. It's been early to rise and late to bed,—shopping and lectures, a couple

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FOURTH UNIT OF TELEPHONE OPERATORS FOR GENERAL PERSHING'S

They are (left to right): Top Row—Misses Kathleen M. Hyatt, Albertine M. Belhumeur, Evelyn C. La Riviere, Alma H. Hawkins, Mary Marshall, Eugene J. Couture, Emma Riendeau, Lillie H. Noble, Louise Maclin, Vivienne Hamel, Louise L. Armand, Marguerite Martin, Madeline Batta, Mary C. O'Rourke, Eglantine Moussu, Marjorie L. McKillop, Doris Summers, Charlotte Anderson, Germaine Lamontagne, Mrs. Eleanor A. Brown, Misses Marthe Carroul, Lalla Munoz, Marie Lange. Middle Row—Misses Edmée LeRoux, Melanie Van Gastel, Aurelie C. Lucier, Stella M. Viau,

Photographed on roof of 195 Broadway, New York, June 13, 1918.

of teas given for us, and, of course, my Uncle and Aunt have wanted to take me a few places. They gave me a dinner at the Plaza, a luncheon at Delmonico's, the theatre once, and helped me to shop to boot. Uncle is getting me one of those awful life-saving suits that blow up and keep one afloat for hours. It weighs tons, though, and where I'll carry it I don't know.

It's certainly hard to try to write with this wild babble going on up here, but I'm trying to be coherent. I haven't told you yet how perfectly fine all the people have been to your girls in Great Big Old New York. They have stopped us on the streets to tell us how proud they were to shake hands with us. Can you imagine it? When we were out together the other day, they clapped us. I must confess it made us feel sheepish.

Liberty Loan Fans

THIS last unit was lucky enough to be in New York when the Liberty Loan activity and excitement were at their height. One of the girls in the Chicago unit tells of how she and some of the other girls participated in the campaign, the chief operator speaking from the end of an illuminated truck, and of how they all had supper at the Pekin afterwards.

At Columbus Circle we listened to a little boy deliver a masterful oration for the Liberty Loan. We passed on to another lecture from the curb, and were asked to buy bonds. The man, whom later we came to know as Mr. ———, talked so well, that we all invested. Finding out who we were, he asked us to mount the stump then and there, to tell of the manly pride arising in one's bosom after purchasing a bond. We declined, but arranged for the next night. The next morning we were busy getting up interest among the girls.

At 7:15 P. M. two flag-draped automobiles drew up to the hotel, and nine of us were escorted in style to the Liberty Loan headquarters. Miss ———, who will be Chief Operator of the next group was elected captain, and she marched us in true soldierly fashion to the waiting truck, brightly illumined and patriotically draped. We paraded up Broadway behind the New York 12th Infantry, and stopped at Times Square, where we sold $6,000 worth of bonds. It would have thrilled you to see us girls persuading the mob that was listening to the orations and demonstrations and songs which were delivered from the truck. I was part of the time down among the throng, and part of the time leaning over the side of the truck, urging people to come up and buy.

LETTERS FROM MISS LOUISE LE BRETON, SIGNAL CORPS TELEPHONE OPERATORS' UNIT, A. E. F., TO HER "FOLKS" IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Somewhere in England,
Some time in March, 1918.

DEAREST LITTLE ANDREE:

This is Toyland—remember Toyland at the Exposition? That's what these little English houses remind me of. They have thousands of quaint chimneys over the roofs of all houses. These are packed together, centuries old, all in stone, solid like everything. And the little engines and miniature wagons and wheels on the train! Oh! I wish you were here. A soldier at the station was leaning against an empty wagon, and an officer rushed to him and breathlessly told him not to lean on it, because he might turn it over! How we laughed!

When we got off the boat, two British officers were pacing up and down the deck—real military steps—and sending their canes away up in the air. Suddenly one of them stopped short, as if dazed by something unusual, and pointing at us with his cane, exclaimed: "I say, old chap, have they got girl soldiers on this boat?" You'd be astonished how often the Britishers use this "I say old chap." They can't go without it! (Don't forget the broad *a* in can't.)

ENGLISH SLANG

They told me yesterday that I had to get up at the "top of the morning." Search me if I knew what they meant! Why they didn't say seven o'clock, I don't know!

We got permission to go to the show last night, and we asked one of the maids how to get there. She told us we had to take the tram (car) at the bottom of the street. Well, we didn't know what the bottom of the street was but we figured out it was the end. We marched quite a few blocks, and finally got to the end—but no sign of trams anywhere. We walked back and after many inquiries found out that the bottom of the street meant the corner of the thing! Imagine!

Some of us went out yesterday afternoon to buy some little things and a bunch of kids at the "bottom" of the street exclaimed: "They're 'Mericans—look at their 'ats!" We never imagined before that our hats were so typically American.

But you should have seen those rosy cheeked little kids! They rushed to us and asked us for some American pennies and nickels, and Raymonde and I gave them all we had. We're ruined financially now!

ARRIVAL IN TOWN

We're in the best hotel in town—the old furniture and drole arrangement of things do remind me of the old French houses and

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, TRAINED BY THE BELL SYSTEM AND READY FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE

Berthe Arlaud, Helen E. Hill, E. Tilleard, Juliette Courtail, Eleanor Hoppock Mrs. Eileen Munro, Misses Beatrice Francfort, Geneva M. Marsh, Beatrice P. Bourneuf, Mary E. Vannier, Jane Lang, Mrs. Pauline McDonnell, Misses Jeanne Legallet, Ellen M. Turner, Louise Beraud, Irma Armanet, Alice Raymond, Ruth Clarke. Front Row—Misses Lucienne Bigou, Camille Rieder, Agnes G. Burge, Ruth Couturier, Louise Chaix, Mathilde Ferrie, Leonie Peyron, Georgette Boehrer, Mary Story, Jennie R. Young, Ida B. Lanz, Alice J. Borreson, Marie A. Lassalle, Louise Ruffe, Emelia Lumpert, Ida Trahan, Frances W. Laney, Marguerite Chenot, Celestine Leguia

it's fun to look over and touch everything. You should see the miniature elevators! By the way, they call them "lifts" here. When we arrived here and after I had registered, they told me to take the lift to the fourth floor. My eyes got as big as saucers. "Take the what?" I couldn't imagine what lift meant! I was so horribly sleepy. We got here at one o'clock in the morning. Of course we had fallen asleep in the wagons, one on top of the other (the wagon was big enough for five and we were seven). We had to get ready and fall in line inside of five minutes! We were all so dirty, you wouldn't have recognized your sisters: black streaks on our faces, our hair falling down, our clothes all mussed up! We looked like shipwrecks.

But during the day we enjoyed our ride. They never tell us ahead where we are going, and we were scrutinizing the map to see in which direction the train was bound.

It's Spring here, and everything is in bloom in the country. Oh! The beautiful country; green grass all over, that healthy, beautiful green; and the enormous lawns were so well taken care of. The roads were so clean, and the old-fashioned carriages and mules—how we enjoyed the sight of them!

We're having a lot of fun with the British money, too. The pennies equal two cents, and they're as big as dollars. I changed a quarter and they gave me about twelve of those big things.

The soldiers are all craving for candies. I gave them all I had. That means a sacrifice for you and Nanette; each time you have a penny, think of the soldiers.

GAS MASKS

DEAR MOTHER:

This part of France is wonderful. The little village where we are staying has only fifteen-hundred inhabitants. The large fields sprinkled with daisies, that surround it, the little streams running everywhere, the old trees, and the red-tiled houses—all are charming. One might call it the country of fairies.

The house where we are staying is new, very modern, very comfortable.

Upon arriving here we were given two small medals with our names, regiment, et cetera, in case we should be wounded in the raids. They are also giving us gas masks. It is not probable that we will have occasion to use them, but too much precaution cannot do any harm.

The night of our arrival in the most beautiful city of France, the long-range guns woke us about one o'clock in the morning. The siren sounded and they came and got us out of bed (we were worn out with fatigue) to send us down to the cellars.

The Zeppelins like to torment the inhabitants and are greatly amused to see the poor unhappy beings rushed frantically to their caves. Wretched Germans! The longer I live here, the more I detest them.

Our work is very interesting but rather hard now, as they expected twenty operators here, and there are only eleven. The work, therefore, is just double. However, we manage very well.

Falling Into Line

Miss Margaret Anderson, of New York, who also went to France as a "switchboard soldier," describes her way of housekeeping in France:

DEAR MOTHER:

I have at last arrived at a semi-permanent destination, and for the first time since leaving home can begin to settle down a little.

Three other girls and I have been assigned to duty in a seaport city and shall be here for a while at least. We are very comfortable. Our good friends in the army certainly take good care of us and we have been treated with every consideration. The chief signal officer secured a furnished house for us and we four girls have set up housekeeping. We have an excellent French maid and our household arrangements are much better than any of us dreamed of.

This house is fully furnished. We have a sitting-room, dining-room, and kitchen on the first floor and four bedrooms above. We have a stove for coal or wood in the kitchen, and also a gas stove and electric lights. Of course, there is no plumbing in these old French houses and we have to do the pitcher and basin act. There is a bathtub in an outhouse in the yard and you would certainly laugh to see it; it has a stove in it! You draw water from the pump, dump it in the tub and then build a fire in the stove in the tub to heat the water after it is in the tub!

EATS

As to eats, we get along famously. We get vegetables and meat from the market—the maid does that—and we get good old American dry groceries from the Commissary Department. There is nothing but war bread served in France, but the Army has white flour and a soldier from the camp bakery brings us white bread every day. They also supply us with sugar. A nice French woman on the next block, with whom our Captain is quartered, has taken a great interest in us and has given us lots of points about where to get things. She is most kind. This morning she offered us a lot of music. We have a piano and one of the girls plays delightfully.

We are planning to stay in most of the time when we are off duty and have our

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friends come here, as there isn't much to do in the town and it will make a nice change for the officers. So far we have been most courteously treated. It is up to us anyway; you always get back what you give out, I think.

There is a hospital near here where the nurses have a room where they can dance until ten o'clock every night. We can go there whenever we want to. The nurses are very cordial, and as they are not allowed to go anywhere at night, I guess they are glad to see us.

Please don't imagine that we don't work. We are finding plenty to do.

The soldiers have been running the lines as best they could, but it has been hard for them to get along and we certainly are welcomed by them. Our knowledge of both languages makes it so much easier for us. We go on duty two at a time and a soldier sleeps there at night when it is not busy and has an alarm to wake him up when anyone wants to talk. The Sergeant, who is a sort of wire chief, I believe, is from New York, and has played George's accompaniments at the Telephone Club. Isn't that strange?

MISS ESTER FRESNEL, OF NEW YORK, TELLS OF HOW SHE SPENDS HER "OFF" DAYS

IN FRANCE

April 29—Monday morning before going to work.

DEAR ——:

Yesterday I had another holiday. The day started out beautifully and Louise le Breton and I went for a long, long walk. Never in my life have I seen such a countryside as this. The beauty of it all grips me so sometimes that it renders me speechless—me of all people. Well—we went into a pine forest and we were so tremendously happy there that we hated to come back. These pine trees grow on hillsides which are so steep that they are almost like a wall. The ground is a light "beige" color, being covered with a deep carpet of bleached and faded pine needles. We sat there and listened to the sound of the Marne below—(there were some falls about three feet high) and the wind coming through the pine trees, and the birds. It was perfectly wild and still and just filled you with peace.

It seems awfully hard to believe that in another part of this country, just as beautiful (for there isn't a spot in France that doesn't grip you with its loveliness), so much destruction and devastation can be.

CUCKOO

While we were sitting there, thinking naturally of you (whenever I give myself a moment's rest, my thoughts just bound back to you), we heard the strangest sound—like the old wooden clock we have in the hall. I simply couldn't believe my ears—but it was a cuckoo. Think of it—the first I ever heard. So Louise and I hunted for it because we wanted to see it, and we did.

The unfortunate part of it is that I had no money in my pocket when I heard it. It seems that when you hear the cuckoo for the first time, if you have money on your person, you'll have no financial trouble; in fact, you'll be rich for the rest of the year. According to this story I shall have to come to someone for help.

We may be able to get horses to ride,—Louise and I. I'm so sorry I didn't bring my riding suit. I'm going to get one here—just riding breeches, if I can. I've got to go to the office now. We're getting busier and busier every day. . . .

THRILLS

Things here go on pretty much the same way, day after day. We're very excited occasionally because some great personage or other telephones, and the girl who puts the call through is very, very proud, and excites the great envy of the other telephone operators. Sometimes some great man or other comes into our office and we all sit up just as straight as can be and look strictly business, but it's awfully hard not to turn around just to get a single peep at him. . . .

LIFE AS USUAL

I lead a pretty normal existence—if it weren't for the innumerable uniforms (there are no civilians here except the women)—and the aeroplanes. Why, one wouldn't imagine any struggle was going on at all. Of course, being at General Headquarters of the American Army, one isn't apt to be in the front-line trench. We are in the war zone though, and up to the present time the only girl telephone operators as far up. But we don't hear any cannon nor do shells occasionally disturb the general peace and quiet that prevails.

Occasionally we see men coming in from what we imagine to be the front. (They haven't a sign posted on them telling us where they come from.) Then, too, we are right next to a base hospital, and the general nature of the traffic accordingly brings home to us what is going on.

But the thing that impresses us most at times is the horses. If you could see those wretched beasts! They are evidently here to recuperate—just strings and strings of them, led by French soldiers. Once they must have been fine animals. They all seem to be young, but they are wrecks, absolute wrecks. The poor things walk along with their heads down, as though they must realize what an awful sight they are—but resigned and just going on, and on, and on. I just hate to look at them and yet I can't help it.

That, and occasional wounded being rushed to and from the hospital are the only things we see which bring home poignantly that a war is going on. One gets accustomed to seeing uniforms. It's only a civilian that makes us turn around.

Sometimes, too, when we have a day off and happen to pass a railroad and see a troop train, we remember, but otherwise we do our work, eat, and sleep in a normal way. I hardly imagine we are going to stay here always, though. I know some of us us are going to be moved to other places in this section. Of course, we know not when nor where, exactly.

Telephone Heroism

THE day of imaginative stories of hair-breadth escapes and exciting adventures, created in the brain of a fanciful writer, has passed. In the war zone to-day the reporters and those who view the conflict from the point of view of an observer, see unravel before their eyes stories of thrilling rescues and daring manoeuvres that the most active imagination could not conceive. It is only these actual experiences that will hold the attention of the world to-day.

In this real drama of war the telephone men of the Signal Corps have no minor part. Now and then short accounts of heroism reach us from the battlefields, of men who have laid wire while shells shrieked around them, of men who have dared everything to get snatches of conversation from the enemy lines, and who have repaired a line in time to save many lives by the transmission of a message; but probably only one out of a hundred or one out of a thousand of these incidents ever reaches us. Perhaps every man who has seen active service could relate experiences that would make one's hair stand on end, or would arouse a deep sense of admiration.

One of these stories has, however, come to us from a member of the Signal Corps included in Pershing's war heroes, detailed to this country to aid in the Liberty Loan campaign. He tells of his captain, a man who by his long years of training in the telephone service in this country, doing jobs such as installing "4,200 telephones in the Hotel McAlpin," was able to complete a piece of work in the trenches that baffled the Germans and gave the Allies the advantage. In the picturesque words of praise of the Signal Corps man, the story runs:

The night we took over the sector from the French, this captain looked over the telephone service. The system used wires with alternating current. Now anybody knows that such a current gives off current which gets into the ground, and any German can pick up all the messages which go across. In this way he knows when an attack is coming.

If you can surprise a German he is yellow clean through, and if he finds you are ready for him, he won't fight when he attacks. So we had to fool him on the telephone stuff.

The order came through, "Take a chance that he won't attack in the next two days and clean out all this wire. Every bit of it must come out." Boy, how we went to that job. We worked for two days and two nights without sleep. We put in a system with direct current, which only gives off a buzzing sound.

"I put 4,200 phones in the Hotel McAlpin and nobody there ever heard of any leaking from one of my circuits, and there won't be here," said the captain. And there wasn't.

Rogers a Hero

SUPERVISING foreman Rogers, of the Elizabeth district, recently saved the life of a little six-year-old tot who was amusing herself burning papers in the street opposite the Company's storeroom. Of course, the inevitable happened when her clothes caught fire, and, naturally, she screamed. Rogers looked up from his work to see her blazing like a bonfire. He dashed across the street, and, removing his coat as he ran, threw it around her to smother the flames. Then with his bare hands he tore her burning garments from her, after which he restored her to her family. He suffered severe burns on the palm and fingers of his right hand, but said, "That's nothing so long as somebody's child is all right."

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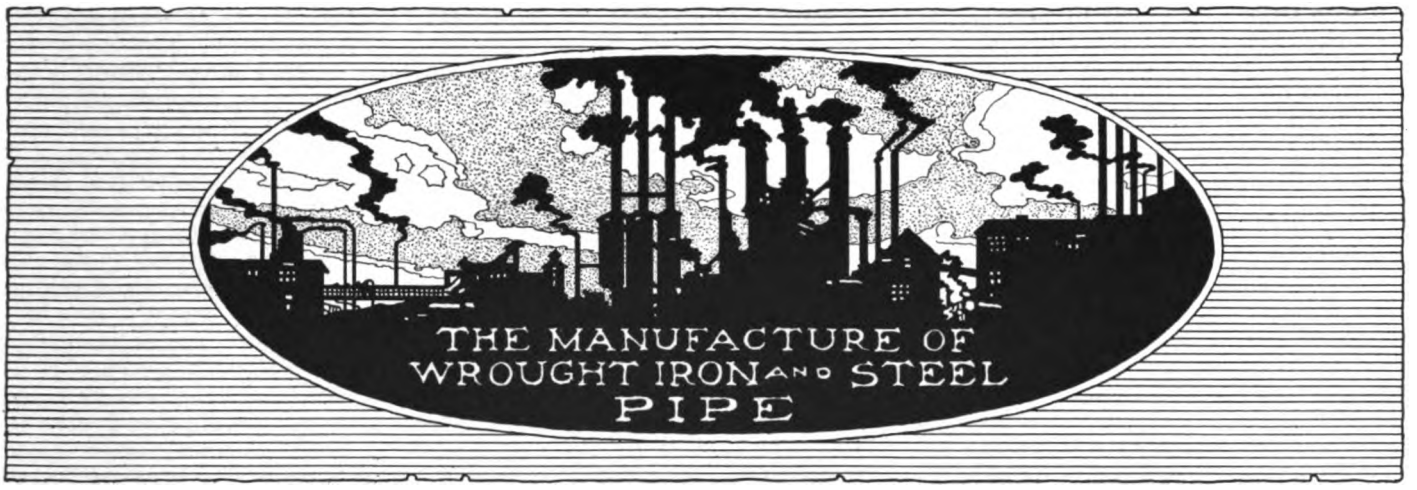

By Clifford M. Hartley, Assistant Engineer, Empire City Subway Company

THE world is at the present time manufacturing, using, and destroying an enormous quantity of iron and steel. Never in the history of the industry have the mills and furnaces been operated at such continuous high pressure as signalizes their operation now. The underlying cause of this unprecedented demand for a most vital fabric of our present-day structure is the Great War—that Cause which has, in the course of three years, changed the governments of nations and shaken the world to its very depths.

This tremendous tonnage of iron and steel products, which in the year 1916 amounted to a total of 60 million tons in this country alone, is, in the final analysis, dissipated in an almost infinitesimal number of different ways. The imagination balks in trying to picture the uses of this vast amount of metal. From ships to safety pins—from guns to gimlets—the products of iron and steel run the gamut of industry. Iron, the most abundant and the cheapest of all metals, is at the same time the most indispensable to man.

A Vital Factor in Electrical Subway Work

AS a result of the war we have experienced an era of high prices and a shortage in steel that grows increasingly alarming. The Plant Department of the Telephone Company is a large consumer of supplies and construction materials manufactured from iron; and the construction of subways for telephone and other low-tension conductors carried on by the Empire City Subway Company, Limited, demands a share of this production. Every electrical subway that is built contains manholes in a greater or lesser number (depending upon its length and other factors), each one of which is equipped with a cast-iron frame and cover weighing nearly 1,500 pounds and reinforced with steel I-beams, as well as containing ladders and other fittings of steel. In New York City, furthermore, it is necessary to build many subways, and sections of subways, of wrought-iron or steel pipe. While for this purpose this material is not the cheapest, nor always the most durable, its use is required through the peculiar conditions arising from rapid-transit construction and from the congestion of subsurface structures in most of the streets of New York. We have explained this in detail in a previous article in THE TELEPHONE REVIEW.

During the season of 1917 this company placed underground a total of about 86,000 duct feet of 3- and 3½-inch steel pipe in new subway construction, exclusive of rapid-transit work.

To most of the readers of this journal the story of a length of steel pipe, through the various processes from the making of the steel to the laying of the finished pipe, will prove an excursion on unknown waters. To the best of the writer's knowledge, there is no published information on the manufacture of such pipe (aside from the meagre outlines found in catalogues) and, although it is doubtful if many would care to delve very deeply into such a technical subject, still there is plenty to interest one in the flaming furnaces of a steel mill.

Impressions of a Steel Mill

GAZING upon high-heaped piles of reddish-brown hematite ore, which, from a distance, looks like the red clay found on the banks of the old Raritan, it is hard to realize that from this is made one-fourth of the conduit that carries 2,500,000 telephone messages a day in New York City. There may be infinitely more wonderful things than this in the realms of science, but ofttimes the commonplace—the thing or fact to which we are well accustomed, which we accept as a matter of course—contains elements of romance and mystery, if we but look beneath the surface and seek them out.

There is something inexpressibly impressive about a steel mill. The towering, slender stacks; the smoke-shrouded buildings; the flame-tipped converters and hurrying figures paint a picture of giant forces at work—of Nature yielding her riches to the manifold uses of man. Poets and artists have found inspiration in this sight: it forges a connecting link between Bohemia and the sordid ways of commerce.

So, if one may place oneself in the right mood, it is possible to look upon this subject as something removed from the mere cold abstract operation of making pipe, and find in it an expression of the spirit of the times—of the industries of the country united and forging ahead in the cause to which the American Telephone and Telegraph Company has consecrated itself with all the immense resources at its command.

From Pig Iron to Bessemer Steel

TO descend for a moment to the level of cold facts, the steel pipe used by the Empire City Subway Company at the present time is in two sizes, 3-inch and 3½-inch, and it is made in mill lengths varying from 18 to 22 feet. The 3-inch pipe weighs 7.6 pounds per foot of length, and the 3½-inch, 9.2 pounds per foot of length. The steel from which it is made must develop an ultimate tensile strength of not less than 50,000 pounds per square inch of cross section.

Some pipe manufacturers make

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their own steel—others buy it. While it is impossible within the scope of this paper to go very deeply into the subject, in order to make this description more complete we shall consider briefly the manufacture of steel by the Bessemer process, which was invented by Sir Henry Bessemer, in England, in the year 1856. This process involves the conversion of molten pig iron into steel by having its carbon, silicon, manganese, and other impurities oxidized by air forced through the mass in fine streams, generating thereby sufficient heat to accomplish this oxidation and to raise the temperature far above the melting point of cast iron.

The "pig iron," which is simply cast iron in the form of blocks or bars small enough for convenient handling, is melted in a cupola or blast furnace. A blast furnace is a gigantic steel retort sometimes 20 feet in diameter and 80 feet high, and lined with a refractory or fireproof material. The furnace is charged or loaded with alternate layers of ore, coke, and broken limestone, which acts as a flux. The blast is forced through apertures in the bottom of the furnace, known as tuyeres, passes upward through the mass, oxidizing certain impurities and carrying them off in the form of gas, while others form a slag. The molten iron trickles downward, collecting at the bottom of the cupola, on the hearth, from whence it is drawn off and conveyed to the converter. This is a large hollow steel vessel shaped somewhat like a pear, and hung aloft on trunnions, so that it may be tipped over for loading and for discharging. The Bessemer process is accomplished by two different methods, the "acid" process and the "basic" process, and the nature of the lining of the converter depends upon which of the two is being used. An idea of the size of one of these vessels may be gained from the fact that the largest are capable of holding 20 tons of molten iron.

The converter is placed in a horizontal position to receive its charge, then raised to the vertical, and the blast (about 30,000 cubic feet of air per minute) is immediately forced in at the bottom and the mass of molten iron boils furiously (at a temperature of about 1,500° C), while a pale, spark-bearing "cone" of fire issues from the mouth. This is formed of gas and fine slag particles caused by the rapid oxidation of the silicon and manganese content. In about four minutes from the start the carbon in the iron begins to oxidize to carbon monoxide, CO, and this boils up through the metal, and accompanied by a terrific roaring it pours out of the mouth of the converter in a long brilliant flame, which may reach a length of 30 feet. To the layman this provides a truly awe-inspiring spectacle. In about six minutes the flame drops; the operator of the converter, who is called the "blower," then knows that the carbon has been eliminated as far as possible,—and the operation is immediately stopped. There is now a white hot liquid mass of relatively pure metal in the converter. To this is added a carefully calculated amount of carbon (in the form of "spiegleisen"—literally "mirror iron" —so called on account of the brilliant facets of the ore crystals) in order to produce in the finished steel the desired degree of strength or hardness, or both. About 1.0% of manganese is also added, in the form of ferromanganese, for the purpose of removing from the bath the oxygen with which it has become charged during the "blow," and which would render the steel unfit for use. This addition of carbon and manganese is known as "recarburizing."

Twenty Tons Every Ten Minutes

IT may seem strange to the uninitiated that these elements, carbon and manganese, should be removed and then replaced, but this is one of the many phases of the process that would require too long an explanation to be entered into here. It will be noted that the whole process of purification or reduction by this acid Bessemer method requires but ten minutes per "heat." When a cupola is "in blast" the production is continuous night and day, and the quantity of steel turned out by even one converter is enormous.

The liquid steel is next poured from the converter into an immense ladle, and thence into the ingot-mold, which forms of it a steel "ingot" about 5 feet long and 2 feet square at the bottom, and 18 inches square at the top. When cooled sufficiently to be taken from the mold (while still at a yellow heat) it is picked up by an electric traveling crane and conveyed to the annealing bath, which process is simply a reheating for the purpose of annealing the metal before it goes to the rolls.

The ingot now represents the finished steel, and the remainder of the processes through which it passes are for the purpose of bringing it to the forms required for commercial use.

Puddling Wrought Iron

IN making wrought iron, about 600 pounds of pig iron is heated in what is known as a reverberatory furnace, in combination with iron oxide. The molten iron lies in a shallow layer on the "hearth" of the furnace, and the iron oxide is stirred into it by the "puddler" with a long hook or "rabble." The carbon, silicon, and phosphorous in the iron are oxidized and form a slag, which, being lighter and more fusible than the pure iron, floats to the top, and the greater portion is poured off. As the melting point of the metal is gradually raised by the progressive decarburization, it begins to solidify, and the puddler stirs the grains together into pasty balls of iron weighing about 80 pounds each. These are then taken from the furnace dripping with slag, and conveyed by means of tongs to a "squeezer" where most of the remaining slag is pressed out. This is also accomplished by hammering, after which they are rolled down into sheets or strips, if the iron is to be used in the manufacture of pipe, as described below.

A Glowing Serpent of Steel

STEEL pipe is rolled from thin strips of steel plate known as "skelp." The skelp is made in different widths and thicknesses, depending upon the size pipe to be produced, and is in turn rolled from "billets" which have been made from the ingot. To retrace our steps: when the ingot, which weighs nearly three tons, is taken from the annealing bath, it is conveyed by another electrically-operated traveling crane to the rolls that are to roll it into "billet-skelp." This rolling machine is of enormously heavy construction and requires powerful machinery for its operation. The two rolls which compress the ingot (by repeatedly passing it back and forth between them) into a long, thin plate or ribbon of steel (the billet-skelp) are ponderous steel rollers about two feet in diameter. Extending about 100 feet each way from this machine is a series of small rollers, on which the ingot, and then the skelp, is supported and moved back and forth. This is called the "roller-table," and the small rollers are known as "table rollers." The ingot is laid on these rollers, which, by their revolution, carry it through the ingot rolls. The operation is then reversed, and it goes back again through the rolls, which this time are several inches closer together. It is thus, by a repetition of this process, back and forth, gradually rolled out longer and flatter, meanwhile being turned over a few times by an ingenious mechanical arrangement, until it finally reaches a length of about 100 feet and a width and thickness of six inches and three inches respectively, though it may be rolled to different sizes. This whole operation is performed at remarkable

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speed, considering the size and weight of the ingot, as it requires but five minutes for its accomplishment, so that the billet-skelp is still at a bright red or almost yellow heat on its last trip through the ingot rolls.

At one end of the roller-table is a hydraulic cutter, which cuts off the skelp into lengths of about three feet each. These pieces of steel are known as "billets," and, of course, may be made in different sizes from the one described, if it is so desired. They fall, from the cutter, into a chute, and thence into small cars, and are then hauled away, some to be shipped to other points, and some to be made into pipe.

The Bell-Weld Process

FROM this point on we shall describe the successive processes through which a steel billet goes in its transformation into pipe. The first step is to reheat the billet preparatory to rolling it into skelp of a certain thickness and width, according to the size pipe to be made from it. This reheating, and, in fact, all the successive heatings through which it must pass, are accomplished in gas furnaces.

The billets are placed in the furnaces and brought to a bright yellow heat, and then withdrawn and passed through successive sets of rolls that reduce them to thin sheets. After passing through the last of these rolls, the sheets are carried on a roller-table to a machine which cuts off the rough ends, upon which they are ready to be formed into pipe.

Three-inch pipe is made by what is known as the "butt-weld" or "bell-weld" method, while 3½-inch pipe is lap-welded. This is not always the case in all mills, however, though in general the smaller sizes are made by the former method, and the large sizes by the latter. These terms are practically self-explanatory. Let us consider for a moment the bell-weld process. The skelp is placed first in the "bending-furnace," so called because it heats the skelp so that it may be bent into circular form. These furnaces are low brick structures about 15 feet wide by 25 feet long. The skelp is brought in bundles by a traveling crane and deposited in back of the furnace on a movable feeder which is equipped with a machine for bending up one end of the steel, for a purpose that will be brought out later. The feeder contains, further, a roller-table consisting of a number of sets of magnetized rollers. The skelp is placed on the rollers, which, in turn, rapidly shoot it into the furnace. In front of the furnace, and at a right angle to the front wall, is an endless chain about 25 feet in length and moving in a direction *away* from the furnace. A piece of skelp, when heated to the right degree, is grasped at one end by a man with a pair of long-handled tongs. The end of the tongs nearest the furnace projects through a bell-shaped piece of iron, called the bell-mold; the other end is then allowed to drop on the moving chain, is caught when one of a number of sprockets comes around to that point, and the skelp is thus pulled out of the furnace and through the bell, which is held in a sort of rack. This whole arrangement of chain, mold, et cetera, is on a moving platform, and may, therefore, be moved back and forth across the front of the furnace, and so take the skelp from any part of it. The diameter of the smaller end of the bell is the same as the outside diameter of the pipe to be made, and as the skelp is pulled through it, it is bent into circular form, with edges touching. When through the bell-mold, it is released, and slides sideways down an incline into a V-shaped trough, where it is grasped by another man with a pair of tongs and shoved into the "sizing rolls."

The Cross Rolls

THESE are two wheels set in a vertical plane, one above the other. On the face or peripheral rim of each is a semi-circular groove of a depth equal to the radius of the outside of the pipe, which, as it passes between and through them, is straightened, welded together, and trued up as to correct bore, et cetera. Continuing on a straight line, the pipe next passes through another set of rolls known as the "cross rolls." These revolve it rapidly about its own axis, while it is still forced along in a horizontal direction, by reason of these rolls being set askew, or at an angle. This cross-rolling serves to perfect the weld, to free the surface of scale and impurities, and to further perfect the bore. In the very small sizes of pipe, such as ¼-inch, ½-inch, and ¾-inch, this cross-rolling is omitted.

This rolling machinery is all operated by electricity, and the progress of a length of pipe through the bell-mold and the rolls is accomplished at remarkable speed. The average output is close to 400 lengths per hour in the very small sizes, 120 per hour in sizes about 3-inch, to 70 per hour with 6-inch and 8-inch.

After leaving the cross rolls, the lengths are caught up by a moving rack, at the front end of which is a circular saw that cuts off the rough end of the pipe as it moves slowly by in the rack. It is then taken to a machine where the ends are reamed out and threaded, and thence to a hydraulic testing machine, where it may be tested at varying pressures, depending upon the specifications under which it is being made.

Lap-Weld Pipe

THIS completes the process of manufacture of butt-weld pipe. The lap-weld variety (of which our 3½-inch pipe is an example) is started in the same way, in that the skelp is first heated to a bright yellow heat in a bending furnace. Immediately in front of the door of this furnace is a set of rolls known as scarving rolls. As the skelp is drawn from the furnace and passed through these rolls, the edges are scarved or beveled, in order that they may be lapped over without causing a raised seam. The steel then runs along over a roller-table to the bending-dies. This machine consists of an outer circular frame of a diameter the same as the outside diameter of the pipe to be made. Suspended on a movable arm is a bullet-shaped piece of steel called the "ball," in diameter the same as the inside diameter of the pipe. The skelp is caught by tongs, which are in turn hooked into a moving chain-belt, as before, and it is thus pulled into the dies. As it enters, the ball is shoved inside, and held there, and the skelp is pulled through the dies and over the ball, and so bent into a circle, with its edges overlapping. It then rolls into a trough, which is raised by a vertical piston and turned around, upon which the pipe is pushed from the rear (by a mechanical arrangement) into the welding furnace.

The welding furnace is simply for the purpose of reheating preparatory to welding, which is accomplished in another set of rolls known as the welding-rolls. These are two wheels arranged in a manner similar to those in the sizing rolls employed on bell-weld pipe. In addition to the wheels, however, in this case there is a "ball" carried on the end of a long steel rod, over which the pipe must run as it passes between the rolls. The pressure on the metal, between the rolls and the ball, completes the weld.

Sizing rolls, practically similar in design and operation to those used for butt-weld pipe, constitute the next step in manufacture, with the exception of the fact that the lap-weld pipe is run through the rolls twice, instead of once, as in the case of butt-weld. From the sizing rolls, the pipe goes to the cross rolls, then to the saws, the threading machines and testing machines, in succession. All pipe must undergo another inspection, as to condition of threads, straightness and cleanliness of bore, et cetera, before it leaves the mill.

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Sights and Sounds Within

THE interior of a large pipe mill in full operation presents a picture of seething activity. The flaring furnaces, the white-hot, writhing lengths of pipe and showering sparks, as the saws bite into the hot metal, provide a pyrotechnic display that calls to mind the Fourth of July in the good old days. Added to this is an unceasing roar and rattle (punctuated constantly with deafening explosions of steam as the pipe goes into the rolls, which are cooled by jets of water) so overpowering that it is almost impossible to make oneself heard, though one shout like the barker at a sideshow. Overhead, giant cranes move slowly here and there, dangling beneath them great bundles of pipe—pipe that may be destined to carry water to the thirsty people of some far-off city; or to bring oil from hidden sources, hundreds of feet below the surface of the earth; or to bear the messages of a million tongues—the unseen messengers of a metropolis.

Couplings

THE wrought-iron skelp from which couplings are rolled is shipped to the mill in widths corresponding to the lengths of the various sizes to be made. All couplings for large pipe are lap-welded. The skelp is first run through a cutter, which cuts it up into pieces of a length corresponding to the proper circumference of the coupling, with an allowance for the lap-weld.

There are then two methods of forming these pieces of skelp into couplings, depending upon the size of pipe. For the smaller sizes, or up to four inches, it is as follows: They are placed in a gas furnace and heated to a bright yellow heat. They are then run through a machine, consisting of three rollers revolving around a center or fourth roller. The center roll is of a diameter equal to the required inside diameter of the coupling. The other three rolls are so spaced, in regard to the center one, that the distance between their outer faces is the thickness of the pipe wall. The piece of skelp is, with one and the same operation, curved around the center roll, into a circular form, and the edges are welded together. The center roll or core is then removed, the coupling slipped off, the core is replaced, and the operation repeated, *ad infinitum*. After cooling, the coupling is trimmed up and reamed on the ends, threaded, and is then ready for inspection and shipment.

With the larger sizes, the process takes two distinct operations. The piece of skelp is first bent *cold* (the only instance in which any bending is done without heating) to a U-shape, but with the ends almost closed. It is then placed in a furnace, from which it goes to the welding hammer. This machine consists of two parts—a semi-circular block resting on an anvil, and a vertically operated steam drop-hammer with a semi-circular depression in the head. The block and the hammer-head, when together, form a circle, in diameter equal to the outside diameter of the coupling. The U-shaped piece of skelp is taken from the furnace with a pair of tongs, and placed on a cylindrical core of steel, and then laid in the block and struck five or six blows with the hammer, which forces it into a perfect circle, at the same time welding it into a solid piece. After cooling, it is finished and threaded as before.

Where Rust Doth Corrupt

ALL forms of iron and steel, when exposed to the elements, will in time be seriously affected by rust or corrosion. Steel pipe and wrought iron pipe, buried in the ground, and left unprotected, will be corroded more or less rapidly, depending upon the nature of the soil, the amount of moisture present, and other factors. The relative durability of these two nearly similar kinds of pipe has furnished a fruitful field for discussion for many years, with the honors about even. Professor H. M. Howe, in "The Relative Corrosion of Iron and Steel," says: "It is misleading to say that normal low carbon steel corrodes more or that it corrodes less than wrought iron, since the relative corrosion varies with the medium. I think that we have every strong reason to believe that such steel, when carefully made, resists corrosion in fresh water as well as wrought iron; in cold sea water, at least nearly as well as wrought iron; and in acidulated water, better than wrought iron." This opinion is shared by other authorities, among whom may be mentioned Dr. J. Newton Friend, who says, in this connection, "It would appear therefore that when everything has been taken into consideration, there is practically nothing to choose between wrought iron and steel as at present manufactured."

Coating and Inspection

STEEL pipe used underground, as in the case of electrical subway work, should receive a protective covering or coating. The pipe used by this company is coated at the works with an asphaltum paint, and is at the same time inspected. The first step in the coating process consists of warming the pipe in a gas oven, principally for the purpose of driving off all moisture and having it perfectly dry before it is immersed in the compound. Incidentally, this compound will adhere to the metal better if it is not cold.

The pipe is taken from the oven and cleaned, on the outside, of scale and rust by going over it with cloths dipped in gasoline; and on the inside by an air blast. A steel mandrel or cylinder 1/16 inch less in diameter than the bore of the pipe is passed through it, to make sure that there are no projections, "blisters" nor rough spots, and that the bore is true. Bell-weld or butt-weld pipe in particular is occasionally subject to blistering or swelling on the inside, and these blisters are often of such size as to completely obstruct the passage. It is next dipped in a trough containing a solution of asphalt paint which, after the pipe is removed and drained, hardens very quickly. It is now ready to be stencilled with the initials of the steel company and the Empire City Subway Company, and started on its long journey over the rails to its final resting place beneath the streets, the unseen and unsung carrier of The Voice with the Smile.

Surgeon or Plant Man?

THE following letter, received at the Bryant commercial office, offered a strong temptation to summon a surgeon, says Mr. G. C. Tompkins, supervisor, in forwarding it to us:

GENTLEMEN:

Your attention is called to the matter of your telephone which is being used in my place. I am about to undergo an alteration, the telephone being in the part to be removed. Kindly have your men call to remove same and place it in a more convenient spot.

Just a Rookie
Drawn by Helper William Irvine, L. I. Div.

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A New Lunch Room

THE Greeley-Bryant Exchange now plumes itself on the acquisition of a brand new lunch room for its operators in the building at 115 West 38th Street. This is the eighteenth lunch room of its kind to be opened in New York City by the New York Telephone Company. The first one that was started, more or less as an experiment, was in the Franklin-Worth Exchange, May 4, 1915, just three years ago, and since that time they have been springing into existence just like so many mushrooms in the various parts of the city.

"The last call for luncheon" never comes in the lunch rooms of the New York Telephone Company, for they are always open for the operators "off duty." The new lunch room in the Greeley-Bryant Exchange

This last one, though it cannot claim any distinction of large scale scientific efficiency, such as the Cortlandt Exchange, which serves over 1,400 lunches six days of the week, is equipped and organized in such a way that it is on a par with all the lunch rooms of varying sizes in the different exchanges, including the Cortlandt Exchange. The 300 or 400 girls who troop up every day to the seventh floor can vouch for the fact that it affords all that a good home table provides of steaming hot, and nourishing dishes. A girl in the elevator asked a chance acquaintance where she was bound. "To the lunch room for my fourth dessert," was the unexpected rejoinder.

The First Day

ON Tuesday, May 21, the Greeley-Bryant lunch room was officially opened to the operators in the building. From the ease and dispatch with which everyone was served, and with which the operators jauntily manipulated their trays, it required an effort of the imagination to believe that the wheels of this lunch room had not been "going around" for many a day. Everything was in "apple pie" order. The matrons in their neat and trim blue uniforms stood behind the counter and dished the steaming dishes from the bright and shining steam kettles that held the hot viands.

Tiny sign posts on the counter gave the menu: Vegetable soup, 3 cents; roast beef, 10 cents; potatoes, 2 cents; peas, 3 cents; ham sandwiches, 4 cents; milk, 4 cents; cake, 4 cents; ice cream, 5 cents; and strawberry jelly, 4 cents. Tea and coffee were poured without charge, as usual, from the large urns for any one who desired. It made one's mouth water just to look at the signs, and perhaps that is the reason why so many of the girls on the first day stopped at nothing short of the entire bill-of-fare, from soup to ice cream.

Lunch-rooms invariably seem to be connected with a peculiar impression of noise, confusion, bustle, and unpleasant odors, but those of the New York Telephone Company are a welcome exception. The Greeley-Bryant lunch-room is especially fortunate in its location, with large windows on three sides of the room that admit light and air in abundance. The soft, neutral brown tint of the walls, light cream colored curtains at the windows, and small potted ferns on the highly-polished tables, add the quaint touches that make the room a comfortable and cheerful place for a repast. Everything is so well arranged in cafeteria style that disturbance and disorder are entirely eliminated. The courses are prepared in regular order along the counter, with the soup kettle at the beginning and the desserts at the end Each girl removes her own tray when leaving the room by placing it out of sight through a small slide leading to the kitchens.

Behind the Scenes

ANY housewife will say that the secret of good meals is found in the kitchen, so let us take a peep behind the scenes. If the very scientific and modern meat-choppers, potato-peelers, bread-cutters, and other time-saving devices were not in evidence to remind the spectator of the twentieth

"Behind the lines" in the Telephone Company cuisine, where an efficient staff of "kitchen police" realizes that food is ammunition, and keeps the regiment of girls in the Greeley-Bryant Central Office in fine working trim

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century, he might imagine himself in an old-fashioned Dutch kitchen, where one could see his image reflected from the spotless walls and shining utensils.

Everything is sanitary to the last degree, from the tile floors and walls to the marble table tops and metal shelves, where not a speck of dust can escape the watchful eyes of the woman in blue who wields the mop. The matrons and cook, in their bright checked aprons, each has her allotted bit to perform in keeping the big yawning kettles full, and the trays of cakes and sandwiches heaped high.

There is an old story of an aged couple, who, as they sat by their empty fireside bemoaning their cramped and unfortunate lot, were suddenly accosted by an old-fashioned fairy, who offered them three wishes. Under the impulse of the moment the old man suggested a plum pudding. He had no sooner uttered this hasty wish than the pudding appeared before his eyes. The old lady was so incensed that he had used one whole wish on a mere plum pudding that she said in irritation: "I wish it were on the end of your nose." No sooner said than done! The plum pudding whisked up on the end of his nose. Consequently, the third wish was squandered in wishing the plum pudding in a less conspicuous place. So it goes the world over! Food and nourishment are the first thoughts, and health and happiness and efficient work follow as the night the day.

Where Do You Eat?

NO one but a business man or woman can fully appreciate the joy of a good, hot, tasty meal at about twelve or one o'clock on a busy day. A sandwich from home and a milk chocolate served at the drug store around the corner will not quite satisfy the persistent pangs of hunger. It also takes a great deal of courage to brave the waiter in a nearby restaurant who is always deaf in one ear at least, and even there it is difficult to obtain hot, wholesome dishes cheaply.

Scientists tell us that a healthy diet consists of the right proportions of foods and their constituents—so many calories of fat, so much protein, starch, and mineral salts. Lack of nourishment very rarely results from an insufficiency of food, but from an unwise selection or variety. The officials of the lunch-room, with Mr. R. L. Morrison as manager and Mrs. B. C. Clitter as supervisor, solve these problems every day for the thousands of operators throughout the city, serving a luncheon that is as delicious as it is well proportioned.

Nor is Mr. Hoover forgotten. The lunch-room lives up to the highest ideals of patriotism in conserving the essential foods that our soldiers and Allies require. On meatless day a tasty and hearty dish of some meat substitute finds its way to the menu, and on wheatless day and every day, war breads appear in the bread baskets.

A Double Honor

IT was very fitting that the dinner on May 20, in honor of the completion of the lunch-room at the Greeley-Bryant Exchange should fall on the eighteenth anniversary of the entrance of Miss Anna Langdon, Chief Operator, Greeley, in the service of the New York Telephone Company. In these eighteen years she has seen the Telephone Company grow, keeping abreast and ahead of the times in scientific and business methods, but one of the greatest achievements developed is the lunch-room plan of furnishing, with wholesome meals, the operators over whom she has so faithfully worked.

Engaged in work in the kitchens is a matron, Mrs. Annie Lacy, who has been with the Telephone Company for twenty-eight years this spring. That is a record of which anyone might be proud—twenty-eight years of loyal and constant efforts in her sphere of work. Nor has she wanted to change her position, for she says that she has always been happy and contented in the Telephone Company, and now she fits into the new lunch-room.

All those in any way connected with the actual work of equipping and planning for the new lunch-room were entertained at the opening dinner. Mrs. Clitter at the head of the table acted as hostess. Each guest felt more than an interest in the occasion, for there was a feeling of pride, mingled with admiration, at the completed work—the lunch-room well established, splendidly equipped, and in full swing, due to the coöperation and efforts of almost all who were present.

A dainty rose and a card at each place, with the decorations of the table and room, gave a very festive appearance to the dinner party. A typical meal was served, of which Miss Ruth MacDermut, recently appointed attendant at the Greeley-Bryant lunch-room, might well be proud.

From a remarkable photograph of a lightning flash taken by Robert M. Gillespie, Syracuse. At this particular point great damage had been done to our telephone plant by lightning, but now Jupiter's thunderbolts are harmless

"A Lightning Flash"

By Robert M. Gillespie, Syracuse

THE accompanying picture of the "Lightning Flash" shows one explosion that took place near Remsen on the Utica-Malone trunk line of the New York Telephone Company. It illustrates very graphically the importance of maintaining the cable protection in the very best possible shape.

On the Utica-Malone trunk in that section known as Trenton Hill is one of the worst sections in the Central Division for lightning, and the old adage that lightning never strikes twice in the same place has been disproved on several occasions because the line on the summit of the hill has been struck many times. The Deerfield cable at Utica, into which this trunk line is connected, is protected with a 15-foot ¾-inch ground rod and since the installation of that ground, the lightning has done the cable no damage.

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Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Lillian M. Bohn, senior operator, Morningside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Loretta Cahill, senior operator, Columbus, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Conklin, supervisor, Bryant, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Marguerite V. Eldridge, information bureau senior operator, Cortlandt information, appointed information bureau supervisor.

Miss Marie A. Gillis, evening senior operator, Harlem, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss May Haley, service observer, Melrose toll building, appointed supervisor.

Miss Pauline Haug, supervisor, John, appointed senior supervisor.

Miss Margaret Huegle, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor, now assigned to work in Washington.

Miss Susan Ivey, assistant chief operator, Canal, appointed chief operator.

Miss Catherine Kelly, senior operator, Gramercy, appointed supervisor.

Miss Martha C. Luid, evening senior operator, Beekman, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret M Murphy, supervisor, Spring information, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Minnie Onash, supervisor, Plaza, appointed senior supervisor.

Miss Mary Pitman, evening senior operator, Beekman, appointed evening supervisor.

Mrs. Lucy R. Prince, evening senior operator, Melrose toll building, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary F. Southwell, evening supervisor, Orchard, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Grace M. Stack, senior operator, Rector, appointed supervisor.

Miss Caroline Townsend, senior operator, Rhinelander, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Minnie Vogelle, assistant chief operator, St. Nicholas, appointed chief operator.

Miss Anna M. Walsh, senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed supervisor.

Miss Ruth S. Young, senior operator, Rector, appointed supervisor.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

Miss Anna E. Parker, appointed supervisor, New Rochelle.

The following additional operators have been sent to Washington:

Miss Catherine C. Ciparick, Yonkers
Miss Mary A. Cullen, Yonkers
Miss Margaret H. Dempsey, Rye
Miss May V. Dineen, Greenwich, Conn.
Miss Alice E. Dixon, New Rochelle
Miss Isabelle Donnelly, New Rochelle
Miss Mary V. Farley, New Rochelle
Miss Anna P. Henshaw, Dobbs Ferry
Miss Anna M. Kaley, New Rochelle
Miss Anna Kain, Mount Vernon
Miss Catherine M. Maidstone, Ossining
Miss Bessie A. McCann, Tarrytown
Miss May O'Brien, Mount Vernon
Miss Marion K. Ryan, New Rochelle
Mrs. Ethel E. Schirmer, New Rochelle
Miss Sarah Seeff, Mount Vernon
Miss Margaret I. Sheppard, Mount Vernon
Miss Anna B. Siems, Mount Vernon.
Miss Julia V. White, Rye.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Rose Argondizza senior operator, Newtown, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss May H. Barry, senior operator, Long Island toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Elsie F. Buchenroth, evening operator, East New York, appointed evening observer.

Miss Ruth R. Butler, night supervisor, Long Island toll, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Elizabeth C. Donnelly, senior operator, information bureau, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Ida R. Duerr, night operator, Hammels, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Isabel O. Eastman, acting chief operator, Bay Ridge, appointed chief operator.

Miss Margaret W. Fitzpatrick, night supervisor, Coney Island, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Catherine A. Hardiman, evening senior operator, Greenpoint, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret Kenna, senior operator, Long Island toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Marie Koester, evening operator, Flatbush, appointed evening observer.

Miss Katherine Mandel, senior operator, information bureau, appointed evening supervisor.

Volunteers for War Service at Washington. Central Division operators who left during May, 1918, for service with the Bell System in Washington. Standing (left to right)—Miss Florence G. Wilson, Utica; Miss Hazel Rollins, Syracuse; Miss Hope Pollard, Syracuse; Miss Josephine Carney, Ilion; Miss Mary Godfrey, Rome; Miss Cathleen Carmody, Auburn; Miss May Tanner, Cortland; Miss N. L. Westover, Manager Operators' Training Department, Syracuse; Miss Bernice Dooley, Syracuse; Miss Margaret Sheehan, Binghamton; Miss Maud Christie, Watertown; Miss May Signor, Watertown; Miss Lillian Du Plessis, Syracuse; Miss Ruth Frey, Syracuse. Sitting (left to right)—Miss Rose Loiselle, Syracuse; Miss Abbie Grodell, Rome; Miss Genevieve Faber, Oswego; Miss Hulda Fothergill, Syracuse; Miss Ethel Cramer, Utica; Miss Emily Cottrell, Auburn; Miss Agnes Dougherty, Syracuse; Miss Anna Cosgrove, Binghamton; Miss Margaret Heffernan, Cortland; Miss Louise McNiff, Cortland; Miss Louise Nellies, Elmira, and Miss Frances Sanford, Oswego

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New York Teelphone Company operators, of the Central Division, who left during June for service with the Bell System in Washington. Standing (left to right)—Miss Minnie Hogan, Cortland; Miss Louise Lafave, Oswego; Miss Genevieve Barclay, Oswego; Miss N. L. Westover, Manager Operators' Training Dept.; Miss Elizabeth Carey, Auburn; Miss Ruth Wilcox, Oswego. Sitting (left to right)—Mrs. Ida Gray, Syracuse; Miss Sophie Lampert, Syracuse; Miss Margaret Quigley, Oswego; Miss Lottie Emery, Watertown; Miss Nina Yonge, Ithaca; Miss Evelyn Campbell, Seneca Falls

Miss Alice H. McCann, evening senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Bertina C. Meyer, night supervisor, South, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Edna C. O'Connor, senior operator, Long Island toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Florence E. Roach, senior operator, Stagg, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Florence R. Walsh, evening senior operator, Bushwick, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary E. Whitely, assistant chief operator, Bedford, appointed chief operator, Hamilton.

New Jersey Division

Plant Department

Harry F. Barnes, equipment engineer, appointed division equipment engineer.

Mattie T. Mattick, mason, appointed subway foreman.

Nicholas A. Mullen, foreman of cable placers, appointed supervising foreman of cable placers.

Olof P. Neilson, cable placer ,appointed cable placers' foreman.

Michael A. Tuite, cable splicer, appointed cable splicers' foreman.

John S. Williams, foreman of cable placers, appointed supervising foreman of cable placers.

Cecil F. Wilson, division equipment engineer, transferred to engineering department, New York.

Traffic Department

Watson F. Buehler, clerk, division headquarters, appointed chief clerk to division superintendent of traffic.

Ralph Whedon, service inspector, appointed assistant traffic manager, Market.

Miss Evelyn J. Bowles, evening operator, Paterson, appointed chief operator, Little Falls.

Miss Lillian Farry, night operator, Long Branch, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Catherine Gleason, senior operator, Orange, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Amelia Grund, senior operator, Orange, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Marion Lewis, evening operator, Camp Merritt, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary Meyers, service observer, Market, appointed supervisor.

Miss Willa Van Brackle, operator, Keyport, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Winifred Walsh, supervisor, Camp Merritt, appointed chief operator.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

E. G. Anderson, division superintendent of traffic, temporarily assigned to work in Washington.

W. B. Morell, division superintendent of traffic, Westchester, appointed division superintendent of traffic, Hudson Division.

Miss Gertrude L. McCarty, night senior operator, Albany Main, appointed night chief operator.

The following operators were sent to Washington in May:

Miss Evelyn M. Bohl, Albany (Main)
Miss Aundra A. Burns, Troy
Miss Elsie M. Cambage, Schenectady
Miss Estella M. Clermont, Troy
Miss Edna M. Corneau, Troy
Miss Marian A. Decker, Albany (Main)
Miss Rosalie G. Flynn, Albany (Main)
Miss Lelia M. Franklin, Albany (Main)
Miss Lillian G. Hall, Glens Falls
Miss Kathryn A. Hickey, Glens Falls
Miss Mary A. Hickey, Troy
Miss Edna M. McClune, Albany (Main)
Miss Emily R. Middleton, Albany (Main)
Miss Nora A. Monahin, Glens Falls
Miss Catharine V. Reilly, Albany (West)
Miss Ethel F. Romaine, Troy
Miss Adeline Wicke, Albany (West)

Central Division

Traffic Department

Miss Josephine Phillips, evening senior operator, Syracuse-Warren, appointed evening supervisor.

The following operators left for service in Washington in May in addition to those shown in picture on preceding page:

Miss Anna Byrne, Auburn
Miss Irene Logue, Elmira
Miss Helen Tighe, Syracuse

The following operators left for service in Washington in June in addition to those shown in picture on this page:

Miss Winifred Blodgett, Binghamton
Miss Elizabeth LaFleur, Syracuse

Plant Department

F. W. Kosters, appointed combination man, Moravia, vice J. J. Price.

Carl C. Newcomb, lineman, Elmira district, appointed line foreman.

Commercial Department

J. E. Wyckoff, appointed division chief clerk, vice E. P. Brennan, on indefinite leave of absence to enter military service. Mr. Wyckoff will also supervise the work of the directory and advertising forces.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Caroline J. Ebert, operator, North, appointed senior operator.

Miss Martha G. Fuhrmann, evening operator, Tupper, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Imogene Gorman, operator, Buffalo toll, appointed senior operator.

Miss Loretta Houghton, evening operator, Olean, appointed senior operator.

Miss Edna Ludwig, information operator, Tonawanda, appointed acting evening chief operator.

Miss Charlotte McArthur, operator, Buffalo toll, appointed senior operator.

Miss Irma Murat, operator, Rochester toll, appointed senior operator.

Miss Margaret E. Ryan, messenger, Seneca, appointed information clerk.

Miss Julia A. Schweikart, Rochester Chase, evening senior operator on duty in Washington, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Esther M. Sichler, senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor.

Mrs. Agnes Shine, senior operator, Olean, appointed supervisor.

Miss Katherine Wellman, operator, Tupper, appointed evening senior operator.

Miss Anna Williams, evening senior operator, Buffalo toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Catherine Williams, operator, Buffalo toll, appointed senior operator.

Revenue Accounting Department

E. F. Steiger, contract verification clerk, appointed bookkeeping supervisor.

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

"Public Necessity" and "Public Convenience" Not Synonymous

CERTAIN residents of Seattle complained to the Public Service Commission of Washington that the street railway service of the Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power Company was inadequate and insufficient. Upon investigation, the Commission found that the service over the branch in question was inadequate, in that it involved a transfer, and directed that the company change the route so as to eliminate the transfer. The company pleaded that it would cost over $7,000 to make the necessary track changes, and would necessitate an additional operating expense of some $19,000 a year. The company further alleged that the line in question was operated at a loss, and that, moreover, its entire system had earned less than 4 per cent. net for 1913 and 1914, and that for the subsequent years its net return was approximately 2 per cent.

The traction company thereupon appealed to the Superior Court, which affirmed the order of the Commission, whereupon the company appealed to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court reversed the judgment of the Superior Court, and set aside the order of the Commission, holding that it was unreasonable.

In its decision the Supreme Court points out that there is a broad distinction between a service that is required to meet the needs of the public or of a given community, and requiring a service to satisfy the convenience of a community. In the first instance, the carrier by reason of its public character and the rights it derives from the public, must subject itself to all reasonable necessities of public service, and for this purpose must subordinate its interests to the necessities of the public. In the second instance, the carrier cannot be required to satisfy the convenience of the public at any considerable loss to itself, especially when the service rendered is adequate for the needs of the situation, but is in some respects not as convenient as it might be. While the mere incurring of a pecuniary loss in carying out an order to furnish certain facilities does not of itself give rise to the conclusion of unreasonableness, the fact that the furnishing of the required service will occasion an incidental pecuniary loss is an important criterion in determining the reasonableness of the order. Wide as is the power of regulation, the state does not enjoy the freedom of an owner. The public interests cannot be invoked as a justification for demands which pass the limits of reasonable protection, and seek to impose upon the carrier and its property burdens not incident to its engagement.

As Purchasing Power of Dollar Decreases the Value of the Service of a Public Utility Increases

S. CONRAD STOLL and others complained to the Public Service Commission of Maryland that the Brooklyn and Curtis Bay Light and Water Company had filed a revised schedule of water rates, the effect of which was to increase the rates theretofore charged by said company by approximately 50 per cent. It was further alleged that the rates in effect when the complaint was filed had been established by the Commission in 1915, after a hearing and a full investigation, and represented the full worth of the service rendered by the company.

The Commission held that while the proposed rates were too high, those previously charged were too low, since it appeared that they were non-compensatory. That, however, since it appeared that the company's operating costs had increased, and that the wages of its consumers, as well as practically all the necessities of life, had likewise increased in cost, and since the increased earning power of the consumers, as well as the shrinkage in the purchasing power of a dollar, reasonably established the fact that the value of the service had increased, the company should be authorized to increase its rates. Accordingly, the commission prescribed a schedule of rates considerably higher than those formerly charged, but lower than those proposed by the company.

The Resources of the Nation Must Be Conserved for War

THE St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company appealed to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma from an order of the Corporation Commission of Oklahoma requiring it to remove its depot in Miami and to replace same by a modern fireproof structure.

The Supreme Court stated that since the submission of the case the United States had engaged in the prosecution of a war and, under its constitutional powers in times of war, had taken charge and control of all the railroads in the United States, including that of the St. Louis-San Francisco Company, and was now engaged in the management and operation thereof. The court stated that it knew judicially, as everyone knows, that it will require the utmost conservation of the resources of the country to carry on the war and that vast stores of supplies and materials, such as would be required to comply with the order of the Commission, will be needed, and that, moreover, the revenues of the railroads, their rolling stock, and the services of their employees will be taxed to the utmost in the speedy and efficient transportation of troops, munitions, and other war supplies. The court, therefore, held that the order of the Commission should be suspended for the time, since the needs of the national government must and would have precedence over matters of private convenience and local ambition.

Profanity Over the Telephone

DR. BOND, a subscriber of the Eastern Kentucky Home Telephone Company, had a dispute about the service rendered by the company, in the course of which he became angry and used profane language, whereupon the company removed the doctor's telephone instrument, and informed him that it was removed for no other reason than the profane language used by him to the operator. The company refunded to the doctor the unearned part of the fee that he had paid in advance for the service. The doctor thereupon applied to the Circuit Court of Pike County, Ken-

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tucky, for a mandatory injunction to compel the company to restore its service. The Circuit Court refused to issue an injunction, whereupon, the doctor appealed to the Court of Appeals, which held that the judgment of the Circuit Court must be affirmed, since it was thoroughly established that a telephone company might adopt and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for the use of its telephones, among which was a rule prohibiting the use of profane language. That, therefore, since it appeared that the rules of the Eastern Kentucky Home Telephone Company provided that it should have the right to terminate its service contract and remove the telephone of any subscriber who used obscene or profane language through said telephone, the discontinuance of the service to the doctor was justified.

War Conditions Successfully Met

HENRY NORDHEIM complained to the Public Service Commission, Second District, New York, alleging, among other things, that the service of the New York Telephone Company in Bronx County, New York City, was inadequate because of an insufficient plant and a shortage of operators. The Company submitted evidence to the Commission which showed that there was no essential relation between the number of subscribers served and the number of central offices required to serve them, except as the maximum capacity of the central offices had been reached. It was further shown that there was an ample margin in the capacities of the several central offices serving the Bronx; that there had been no discrimination against the Bronx in the employment of experienced operators, and that the operators' load in the Bronx was not unusual.

The Commission stated that mistakes on the part of operators, and failures of service for numerous reasons must be expected, but that the relative number of such errors was very small in comparison with the bulk of traffic successfully and satisfactorily handled by the New York Telephone Company, which has had unusual conditions to contend with, and has expended its best efforts to meet the situation.

Franchise Rates Subject to State

THE Portland Railway, Light and Power Company applied to the Public Service Commission of Oregon for authority to increase its street car fares from five to six cents in the city of Portland. The jurisdiction of the Commission to grant the relief sought was questioned because of the provisions of an Act of 1901, making it unlawful to charge more than five cents between any two points within a city, and because, moreover, the fares of applicant had been fixed by the franchises under which it occupied the streets of the city.

The Commission held that said statute of 1901 had been repealed by implication by the Public Utilities Act of 1907, and that the franchise provisions aforesaid were made subject to the sovereign power of the state to regulate rates, and that the state having chosen to exercise that power, and having constituted the commission to administer that function, said franchises must yield to the Commission's determination.

The Commission held further that the fact that applicant's system as a whole was profitable was not controlling on the question of the reasonableness of the street car fares, and that it would not be just or reasonable to compel the unprofitable operation of the street railway system on the theory that the other departments of the company were earning a sufficient revenue to make the business as a whole profitable, since there was no justice in compelling a light or power consumer to assume the burden arising from the street car operations, for which the car riders alone are responsible.

Rates Fixed by Municipal Franchise Binding Only Until Legislature Intervenes

THE Public Utilities Commission of Utah authorized the Utah Light and Traction Company to make certain increases in its rates in Salt Lake City and vicinity, despite the protests of the various municipalities interested, which claimed that the rates authorized by the Commission were violative of the franchises under which the company was operating.

The Commission pointed out that there was no express authority in the Constitution of the State, or of the Acts of the Legislature that would authorize a city or town of the state to fix rates that could not be modified or changed by authority of the Legislature, and that, therefore, if the rates fixed by a municipality were reasonable, they need not be disturbed, but if unreasonable, because too high or too low, they could be changed by the Commission. That, moreover, the rates fixed by franchises were binding upon the company only until the Legislature saw fit to intervene, and that the Legislature had intervened by creating the Commission and investing it with power to revise, if necesasry, the rates so fixed by franchises, as well as all other rates, fares, and charges of any and all public utilities.

The Duty Which a Carrier Owes to the Nation Is Greater Than That Which It Owes to Any Particular Community

CHARLES PETTS and others complained to the Public Service Commission of Missouri, that the service upon the Warsaw branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company was inadequate and unreasonable, and asked that a passenger train and a freight train, the operation of which over said line had been discontinued, should be restored.

The Missouri Pacific Company showed that the requirements of the Government called for every available passenger car and locomotive, as well as for the use of the experienced train crews, upon the main line for handling troops, munitions, and supplies.

The Commission held that the railroad company owed a duty to the public, which should cause it to give proper transportation service to all the patrons of its line, so long as its whole operation was remunerative, but that on the other hand, it owed a greater duty to the country at large to make available for the use of the Government all necessary motive power and equipment to properly move troops, munitions, etc. Under all circumstances, the Commission held that the company should, until further notice, operate one mixed train each way daily on branch line in question.

The Credit of Public Utilities Must Be Maintained

THE Wisconsin Railroad Commission authorized the Wisconsin Gas and Electric Company to add a surcharge of 20 cents per thousand cubic feet to its rate for gas in the cities of Racine and Kenosha for a period of six months. The company justified its application for this increase by showing that the cost of production had greatly increased, and that for the month of January, 1918, after providing for depreciation, the amount available for return on investment was practically nothing, while for the month of February, 1918, the showing was much worse. The Commission stated that nothing was to be gained in the long run by denying the relief which was necessary to sustain the company's credit, and that, while it was desirable that public utility rates be as low as was consistent with the cost of securing capital, it must not be overlooked that rates which are too low really increase the cost of securing capital and, in times like the present, make it almost impossible to secure the capital necessary for development and extensions.

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Threefold Co-operation

Every telephone connection requires co-operation. The slightest inattention or indifference on the part of the person who calls, or the company that makes the connection, or the person who is called results in a corresponding deficiency in service. Each is equally responsible for the success of the service.

Not only is it to the advantage of the individual himself to use the telephone efficiently, but his conservation of the advantages of these national lines of speech benefits all telephone users.

Accuracy in calling, promptness in answering, clear and deliberate talking, courtesy and patience on the part of both user and operator are essentials of service, and must be mutual for good service.

Efficient telephone operation is vital to the war work of this country. The army, the navy and the myriad industries contributing supplies depend on the telephone. It must be ready for instant and universal use. The millions of telephone users are inseparable parts of the Bell System, and all should patriotically contribute to the success of the service.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

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NOTICE TO READER: When you finish reading this magazine, place a one-cent stamp on this notice, mail the magazine, and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers or sailors destined to proceed overseas. *No wrapping—no address.* —A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster-General.

The TELEPHONE REVIEW

DIRECTING THE TIDE OF BATTLE

Vol. 9. No. 8 August, 1918

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AMERICAN TELEPHONE MEN IN FRANCE
Maintaining an important line of communication to the battle-front.

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SUPPLEMENT
The Telephone Review
August, 1918

To Employees of the Bell Telephone Companies:

Under the authority of the law and by the proclamation of the President, possession and control of the wire systems pass to the Postmaster-General as of August 1

In a conference held in Washington, at which were present the Postmaster-General, the Government Operating Committee, and representatives of the Bell Companies, the Postmaster-General expressed most emphatically his appreciation of the service which the Bell Companies were rendering, and stated that such improvement possible to be made would be because of the additional power derived from the Government. He asked for the co-operation and assistance of those who had heretofore been responsible for the service.

The Postmaster-General was equally emphatic in the statement of his desire to conserve the service and properties of the companies with a view of returning them when called upon so to do to the owners in as good condition as received; that it was his earnest desire that the owners should receive just compensation in the full sense for their use.

The Postmaster-General, until other instructions are issued, desires that the conduct of operations shall continue as heretofore, and also states that no changes will be made until after consultation and full and careful consideration.

To all who are identified with the Bell Companies,—who have shown your fine sense of obligation and your loyalty and fidelity to the country, to the public service, and to the property in the past, and to whom the credit is due for the prestige and position of the companies in the public eye:—It is asked, and it is not too much to ask of you, that same loyalty, fidelity, and devotion to the service under the new order of things. On your behalf such loyalty, fidelity, and devotion to service have been promised, knowing full well the spirit in which you would meet and respond to the request.

To do one's full duty in each position is the greatest obligation resting upon every person and is also the greatest opening to future preferment.

THEO. N. VAIL,
President.

July 31, 1918.

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The Telephone Review
New York August 1918
Vol. IX, No. 8.

National Greetings

MANY have the vision to-day of a world consciousness awakening on the battle-front, where France, England, Italy, Canada, Australia, Belgium, our own United States and the other Allies are sharing and suffering alike for the same high purposes. It needs no great powers of imagination to foresee the possibilities of the interchange of thought,—the germs of development having already begun their work.

The fact comes home to us when we read in the news items that King George and Queen Mary have been enjoying gool old Yankee "flapjacks" in a Y. M. C. A. hut, and that our soldiers are playing ball games on English and French fields, comrades in sport as well as in war. These facts, unimportant though they may seem, point to a time when fellowship and cohesion of people will be unhampered by boundary lines.

When there is the actual contact of one mind with another there is the greater possibility of understanding and sympathy. Just as a written word has a more intimate and personal touch than a concrete gift, so a spoken word takes precedence over the clumsy written word. We send a gift — some bon bons, or a knick knack—but it may be merely a debt returned or a custom adhered to. We send a written word of good will, and the recipient appreciates the impulse of friendship that prompted it, but that may be merely a formal courtesy. When we actually voice our message, it inspires a real feeling of one personality meeting another personality.

When distance precludes meeting in person, the only instrument that can bring persons in communication in this way is the telephone. It entirely obliterates distance and boundary lines. For this reason it is — and should be—one of the chief factors to bring about that friendly relation between and within nations. In this country, with its highly developed telephone system, people take as a matter of course the value of the telephone in maintaining the right relationship between folks. If we consider, we must realize that it has been a tremendous factor in helping to weld the free states into our *United* States—united in thought and ideals. Abroad, where the telephone is under Government control, it has not reached the same high efficiency as it has in our country. The lack of accessible telephone lines probably has been one factor in keeping nations in Europe estranged.

The greetings that General Pershing exchanged on the Fourth of July with Lloyd George rang true in the real sense of the word because they were actually given in person, although Lloyd George was in England and General Pershing was in France. It was the telephone which brought them together,—in an American way,—and carried the word of one nation to another.

"I have learned with great pleasure of the people of England joining our soldiers and sailors in celebrating the Fourth in an unprecedented manner, making together a demonstration of international sympathy and union of spirit, and marking a memorable place in the history of two nations," Pershing said.

To this Lloyd George replied:

"The entry of the United States Army into the great struggle for human liberty, side by side with the Allies, is a sure proof that the mistakes and misunderstandings which formerly estranged the two countries are being transformed into a genuine friendship, in a fiery furnace of common sacrifice."

How much more appropriate, and how significant, that this should have been done by telephone instead of otherwise!

Get the Habit

WHY do various advertising concerns urge us to "get the habit"? The answer is simple. They want our trade, not once, but always, and know that if we become accustomed to buying their wares, we are apt to continue to do so indefinitely.

Psychologists tell us that character is nothing more nor less than a bundle of habits, and that as time goes on, the habits of our youth become more and more fixed. We grow averse to doing things in a way different from that which we have been accustomed to use.

If this is so, think of our responsibility! We, ourselves, to a great extent, form our own habits. If we are careless, inaccurate, wasteful, procrastinating, and not dependable, we are so because we have not taken the trouble to be otherwise. On the other hand, if the bundle of habits that we have chosen to make up our character consists of diligence, efficiency, ambition, what may we not expect to accomplish as time goes on? That "get the habit" idea is not a bad one, especially if one is on the lookout for the right kind.

We Shall Succeed

ARE you a "rookie" or a veteran in the army of producers and savers here at home? If you are not a veteran, it is because you are not enlisted heart and soul in the cause of winning the war.

In France our Americans have already proved by their valor and fearlessness their right to the title, although they have been but a short time in the service. They are bearing the brunt of the terrible German assault in one sector, and are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the French in others. What more can they do?

But, in the words of President Wilson, "This war is one of nations—not of armies—and all of our one hundred million people must be economically and industrially adjusted to war conditions if this nation is to play its full part in the conflict . . . ."

"The war can be lost in America as well as on the fields of France," he tells us, and we know that it is so. Then why hesitate? So little is asked of us in comparison with what our

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boys are doing on sea and land. We are given an opportunity to invest in War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps—and we have to be coaxed by solicitors on street corners to take advantage of it! Think of it! We have to be begged to help ourselves.

It is not enough to buy a stamp now and then, although even that is better than nothing. Suppose our armies were run on that plan, with a fight now and then, and no concerted action toward a definite objective. What would happen? Nothing but carnage. Has Germany an objective in everything she does? Look back upon her advertising, her propaganda, her preparations, all she does. The question answers itself. We must beat her at her own game, and go further into it than she has gone.

On June 28 we were asked to become members of War Savings Societies. How many have answered the call? It is not too late. Start to-day.

Your interest will kindle a similar interest in others, and the good that you will do will be manifold, for every stamp you buy or cause to be bought will be a direct blow at the Kaiser, and will hit him in his most vulnerable point, for it will show him that our people at home are just as much in the war as our splendid expeditionary forces.

"As a Man Eats So He Works"

THERE is more than one way of saving money. First there is the collecting and investing of dollars and cents; then comes the indirect saving, which is at least as important. This is the kind that should be exercised on the food question. The problem is not how little money should we spend for food, but how much nutritious food should we be able to purchase for our money.

What is needed is variety in food, rather than expensive dishes. Some articles possess far greater food value than others, and should therefore be used more extensively. One of these is milk,—the food value of which is generally ignored. Potatoes are abundant now, and cheap. Seize the opportunity, and eat them in every form your imagination may devise. Greens are in season now, and are about the healthiest article of food for the summer menu that can be found. Simple food,—many vegetables, a little meat, fish at least once a week, milk, eggs, and few desserts,—that is the basis for meals that will be economic in a wide sense, in that they will promote health, and thus reflect indirectly on our energy and efficiency, both in the home and in the business world.

Books, Books, and Then More Books!

ARE the books standing on your book shelves doing their bit? Have you finished reading them, and have you left them there for future use or for a decoration? If for the latter, why not mobilize them, and muster them into army service, where they will be read and enjoyed by our vast army of men, suddenly turned aside from their every-day pursuits into the service of their country and yours?

Do you realize that in our army there are men whose studies were interrupted by the call for soldiers and sailors,—men who are studying for advancement, men who have a few spare hours a day in which to enjoy the thrill of a good novel, to learn a little French, a little engineering, history, biography, geography, and all the other things that go to make up that vast storehouse of education?

So great is that need for books that fifty tons of space in the ships bound for France, precious as it is, have been ordered by General Pershing to be reserved for books each month,—which means 100,000 volumes. Even that amount, it is predicted, will be insufficient, as there is a great wear and tear on books in the trenches.

If, then, you have any books that are worth while, and everyone probably has a few, won't you put them where they will do so much good, give so much cheer, and help in the great work of beating the Boche? The New York Public Library, or any of its branches, will be glad to arrange for their transportation. In other cities similar facilities are doubtless available.

Wanted! Some Music.

Somewhere in France.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

Received the Christmas package last night, and I don't know how to thank you and the people who had it sent to me Everything is fine and dandy. ,I would be inclined to think that the one who had the packages made up knew just exactly what the boys wanted—someone who was in the army before. We know that the Telephone Company is behind us, and we are working very hard to uphold its name. The work is starting to show very good results. The big trouble we are having over here is the rotten weather. The army life is doing wonders for the boys. When we come back you will see a finer and better built bunch of men than the bunch that left. We are known as "Galloping E" by some of the other outfits. We have a Y. M. C. A. for our company, and it has a piano, so if you know of anyone with some music that he wants to send to France, have him send it to Company E. We have quite a few little dances, and the nurses from the hospital come up to see us often. Thanking you again for what you have done, I will close.

Sincerely yours, C. A. SULLIVAN, JR.

Service to Town, State, and Nation

IN a recent issue of the Montclair *Times* that newspaper quoted portions of Colonel Carty's speech (printed in THE TELEPHONE REVIEW last month), in which credit was given to Mr. Bethell and the Bell System in connection with the organization and work of the Signal Reserve Corps under Major General George O. Squier, Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army, and said:

The generous praise which Governor Edge in his recent address bestowed upon U. N. Bethell, of Montclair, for his services to the State of New Jersey was the first knowledge many of our citizens had that Mr. Bethell was engaged upon the reorganization of the various State departments and institutions, which has been one of the Governor's most distinguished achievements. Governor Edge had pledged himself when elected to give the State a business-like, economical, and efficient administration, and he took great pleasure, he said in his speech, in publicly thanking Mr. Bethell in his home town for the advice, coöperation, and assistance he had given so ably in bringing about this result.

Mr. Bethell's civic activities cover many years, as president of the Board of Education and of the Playground Commission, as a member of the Liberty Loan, Red Cross, and other committees, and in all other movements in the interests of Montclair.

His fellow-townsmen will be equally pleased to learn, in addition to his services to Montclair and to New Jersey, of what has been termed his "generous, far-sighted, and patriotic action" as senior vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, in rendering invaluable service to the nation in winning the war.

Bell Efficiency

Not long ago a Wall Street man wanted to speak to his wife who was sojourning in a small hamlet in the Pocono Mountains. He really did not expect to get her on the telephone, but on an off chance asked "Long Distance" to do her best. He mentioned the name of the farmer on whose farm she was staying, and the name of the small village.

One hour later he was speaking to his wife.

It took a long while, but this is what happened. "Long Distance," that obliging lady who can link you up with any part of the continent, discovered that the certain small hamlet in the Poconos was not connected directly. Therefore she got the nearest town on the wire. Then she found that only one telephone in the hamlet actually connected with this nearest town, and that one was not the farm on which the caller's wife lived. "Long Distance" was not at the end of her tether by any means, for she got that only subscriber on the telephone and asked the party to get the Wall Street man's wife from the other unconnected farm which was several blocks away to the telephone. This was done and two grateful people talked to one another for several minutes.—*Wall Street Journal.*

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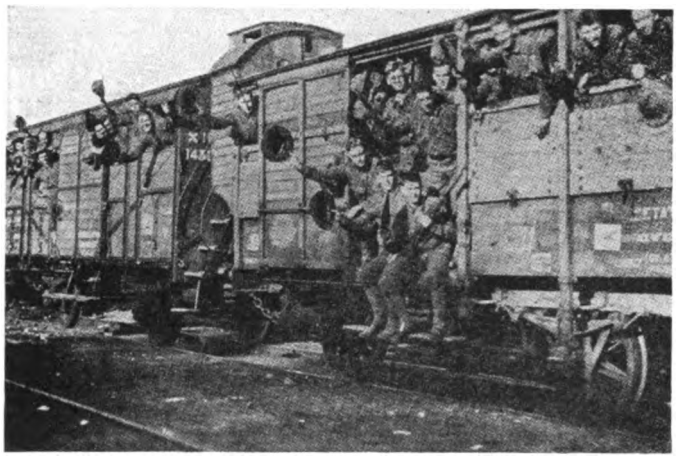

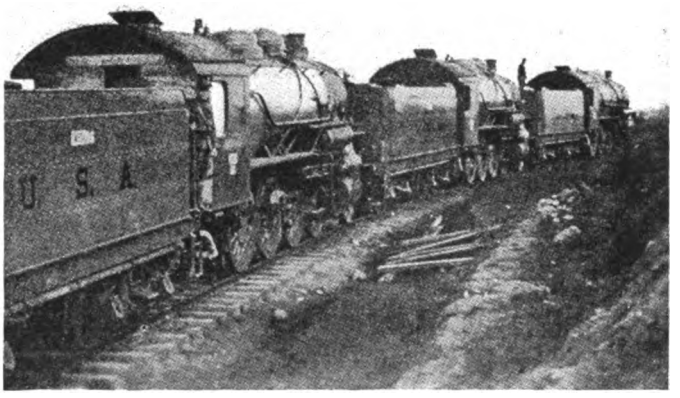

France has expressed herself time and again as astonished at the accomplishments of America, in shipping to France so many men and supplies, and in building railroads and telephone systems, so that she might keep them in fighting trim. There have been produced for the railroad operations of the War Department in France more than 22,000 standard gauge and 60 C. M. freight cars and more than 1,600 standard gauge and 60 C. M. locomotives,—a number to be reckoned with. A United States railroad train in France

U. S. Signal Corps pictures, from *L'Illustration*, Paris

Our Boys at the Front

STRANGE, isn't it, that all our boys who write about being under fire or near the front, continually assure us that they are comparatively safe, or that there is "little danger," as Major Shearer puts it? Their *sang-froid* is a surprise to Germany, who is doing her very best to try to create the impression that Americans are not brave under fire. In her private official communiques, however, she has indiscreetly admitted the nerve and bravery of the American soldiers fighting northwest of Chateau-Thierry, and states that the German Intelligence officers were utterly unable to get information from the few Americans they captured. She was especially hurt on this score, because, forsooth, some of them were German-Americans by birth! Germany does not understand the American spirit, and never will. It is beyond her comprehension. She will feel the effects of it, though.

OVER THE TOP WITH C. F. BECKWITH, FORMERLY IN THE MANHATTAN-BRONX PLANT DEPARTMENT

Near the front in France.

MY DEAR HARRY:

I've promised to write to you for some time, haven't I? Well, here goes for a try anyway.

We just came out of the trenches the other day, and are lying up here at "Camp Mud" for a rest. This place sure seemed correctly named, when we first arrived, at any rate. It consists of a collection of wooden barracks, thrown together in the wilderness, and surrounded by duck-boards and mud,—mostly mud.

Yesterday and to-day, however, have been bright and warm and the mud is at least making an honest effort to dry up somewhat. Nevertheless, it's an ideal place for a rest,—nothing to worry about and lots of sleep.

Yesterday a few of us took a walk to the town in which we were before we went up front and paid a visit to Madam D. and her two daughters, whom I believe I mentioned in one of my letters. They were real glad to see us and we stayed for dinner.

Was kind of tired when we got back, as it's quite a walk. This morning we went down to some Red Cross barracks and had a fine hot bath. All our clothes were sterilized while we were scrubbing our trench mud off, and were ready to put on when we came out. That means a very thankful relief from our friends (?) the "cooties," for a while, at least.

IN A SHELL HOLE

We had a half-way exciting time at the front this trip. However, sad to relate, I haven't caught a real live Boche as yet. Made a good try one night, though. I went "over the top," after a fashion, with a patrol, to try and get some prisoners. Well, we roamed around through "No Man's Land" all night, but not a Boche could we come in close contact with. I sure was a sight the next morning, covered with mud, soaked through, and pretty well scratched up from crawling through both our and the German barbed wire. It was just after a rainy season and the ground was pretty sloppy in general.

Every time the "Dutchmen" shot up a flare, or Very Light, we had to drop flat on the ground, no matter where we were, and remain there until it went out. Sometimes it took several minutes.

I got caught once on the edge of a shell hole. We were sneaking along close to their wire, when there was a sudden flash. Down I went into the blamed shell hole, half filled with water, and you can bet I spent rather an uncomfortable few minutes. Oh, well, better luck next time.

C. T. BECKWITH, Corporal,
Company I, 165th U. S. Infantry, A. E. F.

Reading Between the Lines

IN the days when we gaily cavorted around our little grass plots, playing Indian, and shouting hoarsely, "Bang! And another Indian bit the dust," we did not realize that by the time we grew up, these methods would be far, far out of date. That was child's play, indeed, compared with warfare of to-day.

Every now and then a letter comes from the other side, which reveals in its very brevity the awfulness of the present crisis, and at the same time reassures us and fills us with confidence in the future. Our fighting men have changed their whole viewpoint on life, and seem to be able to see and distinguish the things that matter from those that do not, with a clarity of vision that is not vouchsafed to us, blinded as we are by petty details that go so much to the make-up of our daily lives.

Hardships are mentioned casually, as though they were nothing at all. No sympathy is sought. There is no braggadocio. One mentions that he has been gassed, but will soon be ready for action again. Another expresses disappointment at not having got his Boche when he went out on a patrol. What a story lies behind a few words!

FROM SIDNEY ALEXANDER, FIGHTING AT THE FRONT

Somewhere in France.

DEAR ——:

This is just to let you know that I am still on the job and coming along fine. Have been laid up for two weeks in the hospital, having been slightly gassed up at the front, but expect to go back to duty Monday. Otherwise I have had the best of luck, so there is no complaint or kick coming.

I suppose you find things rather quiet around the Old Town now.

And that is all. Judging by the date of his letter, Sidney Alexander must have been gassed at the time a great many others were, in May, when the Brooklyn man, Rothe, was killed. Alexander was very active at the Telephone Club, being referee for some boxing bouts there. When he entered the service, he was in Mr. Norman's

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office, Revenue Accounting, to which he came from Long Island. His experience as a member of the 12th Regiment National Guard for several years before the outbreak of the war, probably accounts for his being assigned to the 18th Infantry and being sent to the front so soon. He may be said to be a man of action rather than words.

"Take Cover"

ALL, no doubt, have read of the splendid work of the old 69th Regiment, now the 165th, which has again proved its right to the title of the "fighting 69th." James F. Nelson, of Company C, wrote the following letter to Mr. Schmid under rather unusual conditions, and was interrupted in the middle of it by the bugle warning to take cover from a Boche aeroplane. James Nelson was at one time in the plant department, Manhattan-Bronx Division:

Sunny France, 1918.

DEAR MR. SCHMID:

It's some time since I laid aside the New York Telephone Company wire cutters and picked up Uncle Sam's instead, but I don't think the time will be so long distant when I again hope to handle the "only" kind of wire cutters.

Soldiering in France is quite different from hopping back fences in Lenox or Plaza, but that work was surely a good start for the training we all underwent on our arrival over here.

But the training stage is past now, and I think we can call ourselves soldiers, for on our last few trips to the trenches we accomplished quite a bit, or at least the New York papers gave us credit for doing so. The trenches in our sector are well built and reasonably dry, and the dugouts in which we make our home while on the line are very comfortable. I have been trying for some time to locate the New York Telephone Company battalion over here to look up some of my friends, but have not as yet been able to find them.

I receive THE TELEPHONE REVIEW every month and it sure is welcome.

I just reached this point when I had to stop, for the bugle sounded "take cover." A Boche aeroplane just appeared overhead and our anti-aircraft guns are popping away at him, but it looks as if he'll get away as he is almost out of range now.

Well, Mr. Schmid, I have nothing else to say now, except that I wish to be remembered to my friends in the Company, and will write them all when possible. Hoping soon to be again carting the installer's bag around town, I remain,

CORPORAL JAMES F. NELSON,
Company C, 165th Infantry, A. E. F.

FIGHTING IN FLANDERS

Imagine the difficulties that had to be surmounted by the Allies fighting on the Western Front, when they have to drag their batteries through the mud made by the eternal rains of Flanders

Le Monde Illustré, Paris

HENRY DILLMAN, WOUNDED AT THE FRONT, SENDS HIS REGARDS TO ALL

Somewhere in France.

DEAR SIR:

These few lines are to let you know I have improved and am feeling better every day. I have been only slightly wounded, so everything is O. K., but my eyes are sore yet from the mustard gas.

I am still in the hospital, but I expect to leave in a short time and go back to duty with my Company. I will then try my luck again with the Boche and get a crack at one of them for wounding me.

It's a great life when you're in the trenches trying to get a Heinie.

Well, I have been on the lookout for the telephone boys over here, but cannot seem to locate them.

Rainbow Division boys, billeted in France. Ralph L. Turner (Asbury Park and Red Bank local offices), and Mr. Calhoun (A. T. & T.), third and fourth from left, standing

Well, Mr. Newman, I would like to have a few words in the REVIEW, telling the boys I am feeling fine and I send my best regards to all of the telephone boys, for I used to be in the splicing department and it will not be long until I'll be back to the job again.

I would also like to give my regards to the girls of the Flushing Central Office, and to Mr. Mennig, John Barton, Mike Shakniss, Mr. McDermott and all of 81 Willoughby Street; also to the girls from Smithtown Branch Central Office of Long Island.

HENRY DILLMAN, JR.,
Co. K, 18th Infantry, A. E. F.

Enclosed in this letter was the following poem, which expresses the sentiments of the boys who have gone over:

Over here, Over here,
Send a word, send a word, we are here,
And we all are working, you bet we're working,
Not one is shirking, have no fear.
Mother dear, dry your tear,
Soon your worries will all disappear;
We are over, we're glad we're over,
And we won't come back 'till it's over, over here.

Major Shearer Goes Sightseeing

FOLLOWING is a portion of a letter from Major H. H. Shearer, 407th Telegraph Battalion, in which all will be interested:

Tuesday evening there was a dinner at the officers' mess at which the French and American officers welcomed a group of Italian aviators who have joined the colony located here. They are a fine lot of men and very much on the job. There were a few toasts and songs,—very fiery toasts and very snappy songs. The United States officers were up against it after the Italian and French national anthems were sung because no one can sing our anthem. We got around it by singing that good old "army marching song" that every one knows, "The Gang's All Here," and it had to be repeated to satisfy the crowd.

I have been up to the French front to get a bit of information regarding the construction that was required up there. I had to travel by way of Paris, both going and coming, and fortunately had a part of a day each way to look around.

Going up the weather was so bad I did almost no sightseeing in Paris, but went to the theatre in the evening. Sightseeing is not much these days, as all the historic statues are surrounded with sand bag protection against Boche air raid bombs. I did go to the Invalides where many war trophies are on exhibition, among them the aeroplane used by the premier French pilot, Guynemer, who was recently killed. It was the center of attraction and of respect, for it was well covered with flowers in his memory.

I left Paris and took the bad weather right along with me, even up to the day I left to return to Paris. From a sightseeing point of view, this was most annoying, but because of the fog and snow I was able to get around to places that must be avoided in clear weather.

ON RECLAIMED TERRITORY

The section I was billeted in was held by the Boche in 1914 and 1915, when they were pushed back about two kilometers. Last fall they were driven back another five kilometers and it was this latter section that was most interesting. The villages in the former section were badly damaged, but many of the houses were still nearly intact, although all showed the effects of shell fire. In the ground won last fall the towns were all practically in complete ruins.

I walked along the crest of the plateau

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that the Boches tried to hold. In one section of over a mile in depth and two miles long there was not a single inch of top soil that had not been torn by shell fire. This plateau was in plain sight of the Boche lines, but it was foggy and therefore quite safe. I went up into the trenches under similar weather conditions,—the kind of a day when one walks overland up to the second line trench rather than use the muddy communication trench. There is little danger, as there are only occasional shells sent over. Still one must wear his "tin hat" and have his gas mask ready in case some one should start something. In all my travels only once did I hear the whiz of shells and our soldier guide did not notice them at all. When we asked him he grinned and mentioned the place they had landed, five hundred metres away. Had the weather been clear, we would have kept well down in the mud of the trenches, which are as muddy as one reads of them.

SHELL-PROOF DUGOUTS

The shell-proof dugouts in the sides of the hills were strange and interesting. It is surprising to find even electric lights in some of them, and one and all have bugs, probably left by the Boche when he departed last fall. My last day was clear and bright. The artillery on both sides started pounding away each at the other; aeroplanes were up to spot the gun fire, and occasionally the anti-aircraft guns would get after some venturesome pilot who was too inquisitive. By using glasses I could see the machine under fire, but hits are very rare. As the French use a white smoke powder and the Boche a black smoke shell, all one sees is a group of feathery little clouds, white or black, suddenly appearing up in the sky. Often even with my glasses I could not find the aeroplane that was being shot at.

Altogether the trip was interesting as well as instructive, but hardly dangerous at any time. Coming back through Paris I struck a fine spring afternoon and took a tame joy-ride down the famous boulevards through the Bois de Boulogne and around the Jardin du Luxembourg. It was too early in the spring for such a trip, as the leaves were not out but I wanted to see the places.

I got back on the job yesterday morning with sufficient work to keep us busy for some weeks to come, so Paris and the front will be strangers for some time. . . .

FAMOUS "BAINS"

Not many miles away there are three famous "Bains" which up to now I had considered as quite over-rated. It did not seem possible that they could flourish in such a rainy section of the country. Last Friday I visited two of them which have been taken over for American hospitals, and came away with quite a different idea. It was a bright sunshiny day, and that may account for my changed views. Our interpreter tells me that before the war these places were very popular during the season. The places have possibilities, but the interesting feature to me lay in getting a hot bath—the first in two months. The towns are curious. A dozen or so hotels surround a small park in which the bathing building and a gambling casino act as magnets to fill the hotels. The casino is locked up; the baths are run by the American hospital, and are attractive enough these days to satisfy anyone. The town itself is almost nothing.

Business as usual? Not exactly; but business, nevertheless. The way in which France "carries on" excites the admiration of the whole world. Though we in America have as yet scarcely felt the mailed fist, we shall do likewise when our turn comes. During the bombardment of Verdun, while shells were bursting overhead, the *Echo de Paris* was edited in a Verdun cellar

Courtesy The Literary Digest

"TELEPHONES LIKE SAUCEPANS"

Last week we had two Y. M. C. A. entertainments for the boys—"a movie" outdoors in the village square and an indoor concert. The movie is the first ever seen in this town and brought out all the inhabitants. The children were most outspoken in their delight. One Frenchman was struck by the frequent use of the telephone (it was an American film) and exclaimed in French, "Mon Dieu," they have telephones like saucepans." When you understand that no house in France has less than a dozen saucepans you get his viewpoint. The concert was exceptionally good.

We count on three entertainments a week from now on. The local Y. M. C. A. man is a good one. He was in the American Ambulance Corps but was not able to get into the Army on account of poor hearing. He is quite an athlete and a crack pistol shot. Men like that kind of director. The Y. M. C. A. has sent us a complete baseball outfit as well as a piano and both have been thoroughly used since they arrived.

The Y. M. C. A. room is a defunct café, well located near the center of the village, and the ball field is only a few minutes' walk away. Of course this is all for men, and officers keep clear so that the men won't feel they are not the owners of the place.

It took some time to get this recreation for the men, but it is worth any amount of trouble to have it under way. These towns are entirely barren of any amusements and now that the clock has been set back,—daylight saving has been practiced for the last three years over here,—it is light up to seven-thirty. After a day's work on the job, some sort of recreation is essential and the Y. M. C. A. room is the solution. It does for the well men what the Red Cross does for the sick. We are running less than one per cent. on the sick list so have had small occasion to benefit from the fine work you all are doing for the Red Cross.

FROM A LETTER TO A BROTHER IN SERVICE, WHO IS IMPATIENTLY WAITING TO BE SENT OVERSEAS

I know you are anxious to get over here and into the rough stuff. There will be plenty of time, and anyway it is one thing to get over and quite another to get into the trenches. Make up your mind to this when you do get started,—for every day in the trenches with a gun you will see ten days of pick and shovel work. You can't realize until you see it, how many hours of good old manual labor are required for each hour of front line work.

Learn all you can about building roads that will carry heavy traffic in spite of weeks of wet weather. Conquering the mud is a preliminary that must be accomplished before you can trim the Boche. I have heard of French troops putting over an attack through mud so sticky it pulled the shoes off the men's feet. After seeing a shell-torn field on a rainy day I can understand how this could happen. So get your mind ready to take your men through mud and water as well as shell fire. When you can do that with a punch behind it you can lick Mr Boche.

This superman talk is all bunk. The Boche can fight all right, but the American boys are a darn sight better scrappers than he. The English and French have his number and so have we. It is a case of "All set? Let's Go," and next morning breakfast is served in ex-Boche trenches.

The Boche line has been bent many a time and some of these days it will break. Then it will be back to the Rhine for Heinie. I have yet to be up front when hell is popping, but normally if one keeps his head down and does not try to collect grenades for keepsakes, he is not so badly off. The trenches are not upholstered parlors, but are surprisingly livable, they tell me, after you get used to the life and the mud.

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Not Forgetting Home

France,
In the Field at Sundown.

MY DEAR MR. BRACKENRIDGE:

We are in a quaint old-fashioned town, but the scenery about us is beautiful. We are back at the old game, camping, which we like very well.

We are all happy and doing fine, and with a little hard training we expect to go in and show our color.

There are some barracks here that are said to have been used by Napoleon. Our boys are making use of them now.

After putting so many miles between home and friends, I begin to realize what it is to be away. Of course, on these beautiful long nights, with nothing to do, I sit and think of home and loved ones and my friends back on the job, wondering what they are doing. Somehow or other, this place is fine, but give me the good old Bronx every time.

There is always plenty to do and a fellow can make good use of himself, because the sun shines until 9 P. M. and it gets dark about 10 o'clock.

I suppose that "arrived safe" card brought some smiles to the faces of the bunch in the office.

Regarding transportation, it is as safe as Forty-second Street and Broadway, because good old Uncle Sam has it down to a science, and he can't be beaten.

I have a brother in the same regiment with me, so I am not so lonesome, but somehow or other my thoughts wander back and my eyes look to the West, God's country,—and the only country, and loved ones, friends and home.

The world is a small place after all. I have noticed, from the way I have been meeting my pals and friends. Why everybody seems to be over here!

JOHN MACK, Bugler,
58th Regiment, C. A. C. Bat. D.
A. E. F. via N. Y.

The Last Fifteen

TO all who are curious to hear the final word of the Christmas Boxes, comes Major Shearer's letter, telling of how he distributed the last fifteen boxes, which, to judge by notes we have had already from the recipients, have brought quite a little joy. Major Shearer's letter of acknowledgment and one from one of the men, follow:

HEADQUARTERS
407th Telegraph Battalion
Signal Corps

June 18, 1918.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

The box containing the fifteen Christmas packages, referred to in your letter of March 4, arrived at these headquarters on last Saturday. All shipments from the States seem to reach their destination eventually; all we need at this end of the line is patience.

Our records show that every telephone company man in the battalion received one of the Christmas packages out of the original shipment. We have therefore issued the fifteen packages to the fifteen non-telephone company men who have been with the battalion the longest.

The packages were distributed yesterday and I assure you there were fifteen happy men in the battalion last night. I am sure every man of the fifteen feels very grateful to the telephone company for that wonderful box.

The employees of the New York Telephone Company will never really know how much happiness their Christmas boxes brought to the members of this battalion. As the representative of the battalion I wish again to thank the employees of the New York Telephone Company for their thoughtful and generous Christmas gift.

Very sincerely yours,
H. H. SHEARER,
Major, S. R. C.

FROM A NON-TELEPHONE MAN

June 17, 1918.

DEAR SIR:

Permit me, through you, to express to the employees of the New York Telephone Company my appreciation of their generosity and kindness in sending "telephone boxes" to us who are not members of the Bell family but who are doing telephone work in France. I received my box today, a little late for Christmas, it is true, but still overflowing with the friendliness and good cheer of the folks "back at home on the old job" whom it represents. The delay has only enhanced the value of the gift.

Moreover, it came as a total surprise and at a time when packages of any kind from the States were very rare indeed. This was not so at Christmas time. It was my privilege at that time to be on detached service at one of our ports of entry over here and to see slingfull after slingfull of Christmas boxes lowered into waiting trucks and hurried to a special warehouse under guard. When the non-com. from our battalion arrived to sort out our share of the spoils, the telephone boxes began to show up, and I fear that mine were not the only covetous eyes which were turned upon those neat little packages, in spite of all Biblical commandments to the contrary. Well, the Bell men had one on us then but now it is our turn, and we are sharing with them now as they shared with us before.

With best wishes and kindest regards for all, and with sincere thanks for the box, I am

CARL E. PURPLE.

The Voice With the Smile

BEFORE volunteering to go abroad as a secretary for the Y. M. C. A., George Schoeffel, one of the Assistant Secretaries at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, asked W. J. O'Hea, District Manager at Rochester, for one of the large placards, "The voice with the smile wins," which he wanted to hang in his hut. Mr. O'Hea had one framed and gave it to him. Evidently, it has attracted some favorable attention, for on a postcard to Mr. O'Hea, Mr. Schoeffel writes:

June 1, 1918.

DEAR BILLY:

I have your motto, "The Voice with the Smile Wins," in the rear of my canteen near the front.

Everybody comes in and says, "That looks good!" The New York Telephone men asked me where I got it. One of them said he knew the man that originated the phrase.

We are in a busy sector,—big guns booming all the time,—and gas almost every night.

Regards to the boys, from

GEORGE D. SCHOEFFEL,
Secretary, Y. M. C. A., France.

"The Sun" Shines on the "407th"

THROUGH the generosity of the employees of The Hotel Ansonia, a consignment of tobacco reached the members of the 407th Battalion, one of whom, representing the battalion, sends the following note of thanks, which has been forwarded to THE TELEPHONE REVIEW:

TO THE EMPLOYEES OF THE HOTEL ANSONIA.
DEAR FRIENDS:

This battalion wishes to thank you, one and all, for the way in which you have all remembered them by sending them this most appreciated tobacco through "The Sun Tobacco Fund."

This is the old 2nd Telegraph Battalion Reserve, formed last year about this time and consisting of telephone men from New York City (Company E), and Brooklyn (Company D); also from the Westchester and Long Island Divisions. By the Army, our designation has been changed to the 407th Telegraph Battalion, N. A., but by the soldiers in the vicinity, we are known as "Kelly's Flying Squadron," and from the amount of work which the men have finished and the short period of time it has taken them, they rightly deserve the title.

Probably a number of you remember some of the men who were once with the New York Telephone Company, and left so suddenly for camp last year, on about the 15th of June.

We arrived in France on the ill-fated transport, *Antilles*, on one of the hottest days that were ever invented, and then had to hike to our first camp, full-pack, for about two miles. That was received with a great deal of enthusiasm, I can assure you, especially by those who had the heaviest packs.

Soon afterwards, however, we were transported far eastward, where we started in on our work of line building, much like that which we had back in the States, though not taking quite as much time or remembering very many of the "Safety First" rules, which so many times used to seem quite needless.

All New York can well be proud of their boys from the New York Telephone Company and the work which they are doing. Their battalion sets the record for all the other units in the same line, and is the A-1 outfit of the Advance Section in the work.

Big doings are going on for quite some days. Wish that I could give you some of the news, *but*—the censor, you know! You all probably know more about the war than we do anyway.

Well, good luck to you all; the Boche army is going on the bum in fast order and so we all hope to be able to see you soon again back there in the good old U. S. A.

Thanking you all again, we remain,

Loyally,
The 407th Telegraph Bat., A. E. F., N. A.
Per Sergeant W. Chas. Macy, H. of S.

Sergeant Macy was at one time an inspector in the Plant Department, Long Island.

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Lieut. Hill Brings Back News from France

LIEUTENANT G. EVERETT HILL, Jr., of the 407th Telegraph Battalion, A. E. F., after about ten months' service in France, has been detached from his unit and assigned to duties as an instructor at Camp Alfred Vail.

In passing through New York, Lieutenant Hill was warmly received by many of the officials and his former associates in the New York Telephone Company, and he was much sought after and always besieged with questions whenever these visits became known. He was in New York only a few days, and he brought back so many messages from the members of his battalion, all of which he endeavored to deliver personally, that a few minutes' time was usually the longest he could be had,—for, of course, there were other demands on his time also.

By piecing together various bits of information which he gave,—accurate first-hand reports direct from the front—a thrilling narrative might be written which would go a long way towards satisfying the relatives and friends of the members of the 407th Telegraph Battalion that their boys and our former associates are fine and fit and efficient, without any qualification or mental reservation.

Soon after their enlistment, and with but a brief period of military training at Camp Alfred Vail, the 407th Telegraph Battalion sailed for France in August, 1917,—France, the land of romance and adventure. They were sent in advance of the fighting forces to assist in the establishment of the lines of communication for the great army that was to be assembled under General Pershing and join with the French, British, Belgians, Portugese, and Italians on the Western Front in turning back the Huns.

Men of Fine Spirit

Picked men, every one of them, for their experience and ability to do the work they were selected to perform, they have justified every promise and fulfilled every expectation. From all sources, official and private, reports have come of the remarkable performances that stand to their credit, the admiration and wonderment of the French people.

It has been said that when the history of the war is written, the work performed by the men of the Bell System in the Signal Corps Battalions in Europe will constitute a brilliant chapter. (Parenthetically it may be conjectured that, since the girls have gone over to operate this system, they too will be included!)

About the work that is being performed, Lieutenant Hill was properly very reticent. But when speaking of the men themselves he became enthusiastic. "Their spirit is wonderful," he said. "In meeting and overcoming every obstacle they are undaunted. Why, I have seen them return from a long hard day's work in the rain, soaked to the skin and hungry as could be, but singing at the top of their voices and ready for a frolic.

"The way the men have adapted themselves to military conditions is surprising," Lieutenant Hill continued. "There is seldom an infraction of the discipline. They work hard and, when they can, play hard, but everything is according to 'schedule.' They get up, eat, work, rest, take their recreation, systematically and in an orderly manner. One result is that they keep the commissary and quartermaster busy,—they eat so heartily their clothes grow too small. (Lieutenant Hill himself is an evidence of the assertion.) Another result is that the doctors have very little doctoring to do, and to keep themselves from utter idleness they pitch in and do anything that comes to hand."

Work and Play

The daylight saving plan was in operation in France a couple of years or more before it was adopted in this country, but in order to give the men as much time as possible for recreation, the day has been advanced another hour, so the day's work ends at four o'clock and there is a long evening in which the men may enjoy themselves. That is, when they have time. These men have the habit "over there," which is characteristic of Bell telephone men "over here," of not quitting while there is work needed to be done. And so there are stories of "rush" installations and other "emergency" work which are performed heedless of the hours of the clock.

Divided Between Construction and Maintenance

"The work is much the same as the men had to do in the service of the New York Telephone Company," explained Lieutenant Hill. "A considerable part of the original 407th Telegraph Battalion is now on detached service, or special assignments. After building the lines, installing switchboards, and completing the construction work in a certain section, it must be maintained, of course, and so men are detached, owing to their knowledge and experience, and placed in charge of the maintenance work, some as wire chiefs and others in various capacities."

Each unit of the battalion engaged in construction work has an interpreter assigned to it by the French Government, and some of these are the finest types of gentlemen, was another interesting statement made by Lieutenant Hill. These interpreters are especially useful when a new city or town is reached. The interpreter goes ahead and sees the chief town official, making arrangements for the billeting of the telephone men during their stay, and for the necessary interviews for the transaction of business by the telephone men with the town officials, incident to the work that is to be done.

French Hospitality to Our Men

The billeting of the men is purely arbitrary on the part of the town functionary. He simply tells where they are to go, and the people upon whom they are "wished" have no say-so in the matter whatever. Our men may find themselves hospitably or coldly received, but usually, Lieutenant Hill says, they are cordially welcomed, for they have gained a splendid reputation among the French people and almost invariably find themselves the object of every attention the townsfolk can bestow.

Frequently entertainments are arranged for their benefit during the evenings, but from these the officers of the battalion usually absent themselves so as not to interfere with the enjoyment of their men.

Attitude of French People Towards the War

When asked regarding the attitude of the French people towards the war,—"How does the war affect them?"—Lieutenant Hill said that universally they seem to have accepted war conditions as normal conditions while the war lasts, and accordingly they have adjusted their lives to a war basis. Consequently it makes no difference to them whether the war lasts three months or three years longer; they are prepared to "stick it out" until Germany is defeated and they can again readjust their lives to their former normal basis. He did not find the attitude of "dogged determination to win the war" so much as the ready and complete acceptance of the condition of war and absolute confidence in ultimate victory.

From the moment France was invaded, she was wholly in the war, and now *"C'est la guerre"* is sufficient rea-

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son for anything and everything that happens. It is probably this that accounts for the marvelous endurance and resourcefulness of the nation which two years ago was calumniated by being described as "bled white," and which has steadfastly displayed a vigor and courage that is as amazing as it is inspiring.

Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross

"How about the Y. M. C. A. and the Red Cross over there?"

"I hold no brief for either of them," replied Lieutenant Hill, "but one can't say too much for them. They are fine. An instance: One day last fall we made a move. All our stuff was loaded into trucks and transported some miles. Well, the same evening that our trucks arrived and were unpacked, the Y. M. C. A. reached our destination with an auto load of tobacco, cakes, chocolate, and other things we needed, which they sold to us right out of their car because they hadn't yet had time to set up a shop. They followed right after us and were ready when we got there. So it is all over; they are right on the job."

Our Telephone Girls Over There

"Did you see any of our telephone girls over there before you left?"

Lieutenant Hill answered that he had seen them at work and on the street. "We were certainly happy when the girls got over there to operate the system we had been putting in," he said. "The operation and construction go hand in hand. Their coming enormously increased the efficiency of the system. Formerly the operators were men from the Signal Corps, or men detailed from other organizations while they were not needed elsewhere. Consequently the force was constantly shifting. The girls were sent for to speed up the service and release men it had been necessary to hold on the work."

As a parting comment on the 407th Telegraph Battalion, originally the 2nd Telegraph Battalion, Signal Corps Reserve, composed of men from the New York Telephone Company, Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester and Long Island Divisions, Lieutenant Hill said, "I could not pick out in the Army an organization I had rather be with."

With the Wits

Man (at telephone)—"What! Line still busy? Why, great cats, I've been trying to get that number for half an hour!" Central (sweetly)—"It's a party line, you know." Man (wildly)—"Party nothing! It's a convention line!"—Buffalo *Express*.

Speeding up War Work in the Washington Exchanges

THOUSANDS of persons rushing to Washington, a city seething with energy and life! All the departments of the Government, the Red Cross, and every other agency engaged upon the war, and everything political, commercial, and personal—all are teeming with activity in every phase and variety. And how are most of these affairs transacted? By the telephone, of course.

The simple expedient of lifting a telephone receiver and placing a call is all that is necessary to obtain immediate communication near or far, within the city, or across the continent, day or night.

Washington has been transformed. It is now a Washington such as old-timers have never seen before, so changed is it from the placid, leisurely place that it was in pre-war times. This new Washington has imposed tremendous responsibilities upon the telephone system, and among the hosts that have gathered there to render aid to the Government in time of war are the telephone operators who have volunteered their services.

Truly can they be said to feel the pulse of the nation, and they are justly proud that in this greatest of all times, they are privileged, as one girl put it, "to be a part of this great human machine of the Government."

From the territory of the New York Telephone Company alone, there were in Washington on July 17, four hundred and one local, toll and information operators, supervisors, clerks, and chaperons. Of these, forty-nine were sent from the Manhattan-Bronx Division; sixty from the Westchester Division; eighty-two from the New Jersey Division; eighty-three from the Hudson Division; forty-five from the Central Division, and eighty-two from the Western Division.

While their work is all-engrossing, the provision made by the Telephone Company for their accommodation and comfort has relieved them of the inconveniences and expenses to which other workers in Washington are subjected. The seven large and fully appointed buildings that were taken over for their accommodation are in charge of chaperons and a full staff of attendants, while the cuisine is looked after by a special manager and force of helpers.

The operators do not lack amusements, as can be seen by the following letter, written to us by "one of the girls at the Washington College":

Washington, D. C., June 26, 1918.

EDITOR OF THE TELEPHONE REVIEW:

I am down here doing my bit. I was sent down here from the Westchester Division by the New York Telephone Company a few months ago.

Last month on one of our party nights, which always come on Thursday, one of our girls, Miss Klaus, from Broad, New York (I think), entertained us by arranging a little party. It was simply wonderful, and we all enjoyed ourselves very much.

This is what she arranged. A few of her friends from Washington sang; one of the girls gave some splendid readings, and Miss Klaus herself danced a rhythmic dance, and a "scarf dance." It was so lovely of her to do this for us. I think you ought to mention this in THE TELEPHONE REVIEW. (I don't mean my letter.) Miss Manz and Miss Scully, our chaperons, and also Mr. Field and Mr. Anderson were present.

Miss Klaus and a few others have been here a year now, and they are certainly doing their bit. (I expect to be here a year also.)

I am one of the girls at the Washington College. "C."

The following poem is another contribution received showing the spirit of the girls:

'Phone Girls to the Front Again

(By Miss May McNamara, New York Long Distance Operator, now in Washington, D. C.)

When the strife and the hardships are over,
And the war is a thing of the past,
When the boys from the front are returning,
Having done their bit to the last,

If anyone asks, "What did you do
To help win the world's greatest fight?"
Can you answer as most of the 'phone girls can,
"We have helped, though 'twas only a mite"?

We have bought quite a number of Liberty Bonds,
We have helped in the Red Cross, too,
And there isn't a one without War Savings Stamps,
Bought to save the Red, White, and Blue.

One day as we worked as usual,
Came the call for volunteers
For 'phone girls to go to Washington,—
And the answer was three hearty cheers!

From the North and the South, the East and the West
They came, yes! one and all,
Gave up their homes, and people, too,
To answer their country's new call.

And when the war is over
And Peace rings through the air,
With heads held high, we can say with pride,
"Thank God! We have done our share!"

THE propagandist," said a four-minute speaker at Proctor's theatre, New York, recently, "who stands on the street corners and criticises the Government and the war program, reminds me of a blind man in a dark room, trying to throw spit-balls at a black cat that isn't there."

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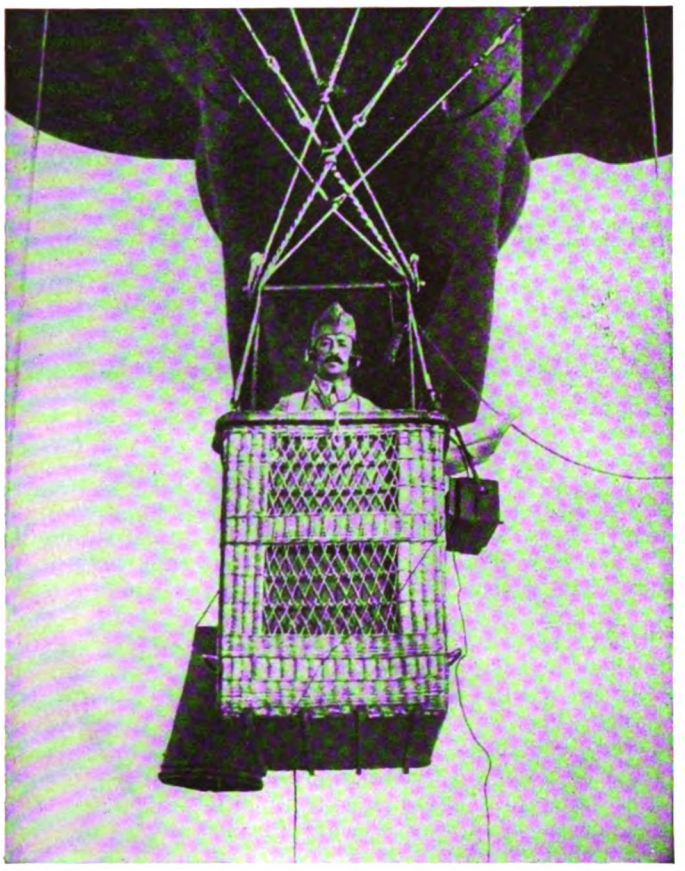
American Observation Balloon

First Air Unit in France



OBSERVER IN CAPTIVE SAUSAGE BALLOON
The role played by captive observation balloons is daily becoming more important. The slightest movement of the enemy is noted and reported by telephone to the station below. Note telephone wires running to the ground, and parachute at left of basket
From Le Miroir, Paris

ATTENTION was drawn recently to a new factor in our warfare,—the naval observation balloon,—when a flash of lightning swept across Gravesend Bay and, with a snapping that could be heard for miles, struck the gas bag, which exploded with a mighty roar. The balloon was secured to the deck of the Special Patrol *Zeafri* by a series of cables, and, with its basket and two observers, formed part of the war-time defense of New York harbor.

Such balloons figure extensively in the activities of our American Expeditionary Force in France, and have been very valuable of late in "spotting" the preparations under way behind the German lines for the new drive to Paris.

SOMEWHERE in France, along the American sectors, are these silent guards, whose eyes are upon the movements of the enemy, watching for unusual activities behind the enemy's lines, noting the positions of the guns, the trenches, and the men, checking up reports of cavalry reconnoissance, picking up reserves, making out field works, and telephoning the reports to the outposts, which are equipped with complete telephone and telegraph outfits.

High above our lines, it floats,—an American Kite Balloon,—manned by American soldiers,—tugging at its cable, as though anxious to sail across the terrible stretch of No Man's Land and learn the innermost thoughts, words, and actions of "Billy Boche," as our boys call him.

Below, gunners stand in position, ever ready and on the alert, waiting for the telephone signal that is to send messengers of death into the ranks of the Germans. It comes, and on the word a monster shell is sent hurtling towards its unseen target. The men aloft in the basket of the balloon mark where the shot falls, and telephone again to the gunners the accuracy of the range. Then, when the big guns have done their work, the observers in the balloon telephone down to them to cease firing.

At the base, where the cable and wires from the balloon reach the ground, stand twelve men, constantly sweeping the sky with powerful glasses. Enemy aeroplanes are sighted, and an alarm is immediately sounded; the automobile winch begins to wind up the cable which moors the balloon to the earth, and powerful anti-aircraft guns spurt out their fire at the Boches that are trying to swoop down on their prey. The guns crash; nearer and nearer comes the balloon to the ground; the automobile to which it is moored starts to move, and gently draws the balloon to its nest, where it is concealed until another opportunity of ascending arrives.

Balloon First in Race of Honor

FOR months Uncle Sam has been training observers in the American camps, and now, with great pride, we hear that the first American balloon unit is at the front. We might call it a pioneer unit, for it is the first of its kind that the United States has ever

UNWINDING TELEPHONE WIRE AS BALLOON ASCENDS
"Spotting" is the military term for the arduous, monotonous, and dangerous work done by observation balloons at the front in observing the enemy's movements. Balloons stretch across the sky in long lines, and direct and rectify the fire of the guns

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had in action. Contrary to the expectation of all, the first American air service unit to be in active use at the front is not an aeroplane squadron, but a balloon unit.

How would you like to be a balloonist? The thrills and terrors of the air have up to this time been more or less confined to the work of the planes, and the balloon has not had much publicity. In fact, until recently, the balloon was not considered an effective weapon of war, because of its vulnerability, being easily wrecked by a single shot, and offering such a large target to the enemy. Besides, the old-fashioned balloon was at the mercy of the wind, tossed and torn by every current of air.

Think of the development that has taken place in the history of aircraft since the year of our Declaration of Independence! When Benjamin Franklin was in Paris in 1797, balloons were still a nine days' wonder, and were as yet in a state of infancy.

If the inventors of the balloon, Etienne and Joseph Montgolfier, could have looked ahead to 1918 from 1776, even their imagination would have suffered a shock, for, though great things were hoped for from their spherical balloons, the results were more or less disappointing.

The Kite Balloon, or Sausage

DURING the American Civil War, and in Cuba in 1898, before Santiago, they proved not only a failure in respect of acquisition of information, but also a source of positive danger, by giving the enemy the exact range.

HOLDING THE BALLOON TO EARTH

This powerful motor car, manned by French soldiers on the Somme battle-front, is part of the balloon outfit. Messages sent down by the observer are taken by the operator in the car and transmitted to headquarters, or to the batteries. A powerful winch on the car draws the balloon to earth when menaced or about to descend, and the car trails it to its hiding place

The spherical balloon has given place, in great part, to the dirigible and to the aeroplane, which have the advantage of speed, and which are not so much at the mercy of every little air current. It has, however, been so modified that it has a very valuable place in the war to-day.

As the spherical captive balloon offered a very poor resistance to wind squalls, the idea of constructing a balloon which would be a combination of a kite and a balloon was conceived.

The stability of this balloon would increase as the wind rose, and only the strength of the materials used in its composition would determine its possibilities in resisting the wind.

It consists of a long cylindrical part closed at each end by a spherical cap. At the rear is attached a rudder, carrying at its forward end an air-admission funnel and at the other a vent. In the interior of the balloon proper is a ballonet, whose function it is to preserve the invariability of the form of the system, and into which air is admitted by a funnel and valve.

These captive balloons are held by a cable to the earth or to a ship. This cable is usually let out or held in by means of a windlass or drum, operated by hand or mechanical power. As a rule, the windlass is directly connected to the engine on a motor truck, which accompanies the balloon to its various points of ascension.

ON GUARD

Stationed below the captive balloon are several anti-aircraft guns, ready to blaze away at sight of hostile planes. Realizing the menace of the balloon, the enemy risks a great deal to destroy it. A word over the telephone to the gunner protecting the balloon, an order, and the plane is brought down or driven away

Being a Balloonist

ON the sea, too, the balloon has been used extensively. In fact, a great deal of our success in spotting U-boats has been due to the discovery that a submerged submarine can be seen from a height, whereas it is not visible from the deck or mast of the ship. Enter the Kite Balloon, or Sausage, as it is nick-named by the French, with its power of remaining stationary at various heights, from which, under favorable atmospheric conditions, it can detect the U-Boat. A glimpse of a submarine, a telephone message, or signal of some sort, an almost immediate report from one of the big guns on board ship, and the danger is averted.

In spite of the fact that balloons are more or less stationary, the man in the basket must be a good sailor, for the

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swaying motion of the basket is apt at first to make him "seasick." In fact, he has the feeling that he is in a storm at sea, and the sensation is apt to make him deathly sick in the beginning.

Then, too, there is the danger of being attacked. If he is wise, he will be ready, with a large parachute of fine silk attached to his back. Such a thing as an occasional jump from the car of the balloon at a height of three-quarters of a mile from the ground, is to be expected. Indeed, the observer always holds himself in readiness for such an event. A jump, a drop like a plummet for the first 150 feet, and a gradual slackening up as the parachute opens and spreads out its 28 feet of width, and he is camparatively safe!

Telephoning from Balloons

THE possibilities of the captive balloon have led to the organization of balloon service and of balloon troops. As a rule, these troops belong to the Signal Corps, and are charged with the care, maintenance, and use of the material, which includes vehicles for transport, trucks for ascensions, apparatus for generating hydrogen gas, and the necessary supplies, tools, et cetera. The train accompanying a captive balloon in the field is large, including a reel wagon with its tender, a toll wagon, tube wagons carrying compressed hydrogen, and wagons for the balloon equipment proper.

The advantage of the telephone in immediately transmitting the news gathered by the men in the captive balloons cannot be overestimated. Instead of garbled reports passing through the hands and mouths of a number of more or less reliable messengers, and the elapse of precious minutes, hours, and even days, we have messages delivered almost instantly, by word of mouth, directly from the observer.

The telephone and aircraft have almost entirely dissipated the fog of war. Long before an army reaches the battle-front, its strength and composition are known, its direction and rate of march disclosed, and its purpose revealed. Instead of working in the dark as heretofore, a commanding general may act in full knowledge of the task before him, and may take suitable measures to checkmate the moves of the enemy in ample time.

When one considers the fact that in modern times the firing is not direct, the batteries engaged not seeing the target, one can realize the value of the balloon and the telephone. The nature of the target and its location must be known if the shots are to be effective. It is at this point that the captive balloon and the telephone do their bit, communicating with the commandant of the artillery, aiding him by transmitting valuable information, in the directing of his batteries, so that every shot may tell.

Keeping Alive the Safety First Movement

THE latest stunt in connection with the Accident Prevention and Safety First work was tried out by the Syracuse Field Committee on June 5.

The meeting was staged in the form of a baseball game, and the contest was conducted similar to a spelling bee. Monahan and Wicks were appointed Captains and each chose a team. A coin was tossed to see which team should take the field. Chairs were placed at each base and at the pitcher's box. The pitcher was appointed by the Captain and took the chair in the pitcher's box; the batter from the other team took the chair placed at the home plate, and Mr. Slade, the umpire, called the game.

The pitcher wound up, but instead of putting over a spit-ball, he put over a "First Aid" question. The batter took a swing at the question and, if he hit it hard, was given two or three bases, according to the judgment of the umpire. If he made a clean miss, he was out, and a new batter called up. The batter had the right to return the question to the pitcher, and if he (the pitcher) failed to answer correctly the batter got a base on balls.

At the end of the second inning the score stood 10 to 3 in favor of Monahan's team, but in the first half of the third, Frost got wild and filled the bases, when Wicks came to bat and struck the pill squarely on the nose, clearing the bases and making a home run. Frost was at once sent to the bench and replaced by Monahan who, after striking out the first man up, was knocked all over the lot. At the end of the third inning the game was called on account of darkness, with the score 14 to 10 in favor of Mr. Wick's team.

Credit is due H. F. Slade, known as "Doc" Slade among the Plant employees, who, in connection with his regular duties as Building and Supply Inspector, in going about the Division, has, through his lectures and the staging of Safety First stunts at various Committee meetings, been of real assistance in creating interest in Accident Prevention work.

H. H. GRISWALD,
Secretary, Accident Prevention Committee, Central Division.

Anniversary Letter from Major Shearer

JUST a year ago, on June16, 1917, 1917, the Second Telegraph Battalion, under command of Major H. H. Shearer, went into training at Camp Alfred Vail, Little Silver, N. J., to train for service overseas.

On the anniversary of that momentous day in the lives of these men, Major Shearer writes a letter from France where the battalion, known as the 407th, is doing notable work.

France, June 16, 1918.

DEAR MR. G. C. ALLEN:

This is the anniversary of the day on which the "Old Second" was ordered into the training camp. As I look back, it seems more than an ordinary twelve months, and it is only the realization that it has been an extraordinary year for every one in America that keeps me from believing it to be particularly momentous for us who came over here. To be sure, it has been some experience, but with over seven hundred thousand Yanks in France to-day, we cannot have turned up any unparalleled experiences. I can truthfully say, however, that we have been continually busy. The amount of work that has been done, and is still to be done is astounding. All the work back of the lines is solely for the purpose of furnishing every assistance to the men up front. And war seems to be ninety per cent. work and preparation. The stimulus of getting a whack at the Hun only comes to us by proxy, and that is a disappointment to the boys, but they are cheerful and willing in spite of this.

Since the American troops have gotten into the recent attacks they have made good with a bang. They have proved what we always knew; we can lick any old Hun that Hindenburg sends against us. It is just a question of time and numbers. The French are pathetic in their happiness, for they had a lurking fear that we might not deliver the goods!

Since I last wrote you, two of our men have been commissioned Second Lieutenants, and two more are now in the candidates' school. Before the war is finished, there will probably be many changes from the original list of men that entered the service a year ago to-day. That is the way an army is run, and we have been fortunate in staying as well centered as we have.

Everyone expects that things will be pretty rough and hot on the front this summer and fall. It is to be expected that Mr. Hun will do everything he can to break the Allies before winter. Next year it will be our turn, and the American boys will turn the trick. The Allies may get a bit bent and twisted this year, but there won't be any serious break.

In all my letters I have told you how hale and hearty the men are. This continues to be the situation. In fact I am sure every man jack of them is at least a hundred per cent. healthier than he was a year ago. Plenty of hard work, and plenty of good food do the trick. There is little grumbling even when variety is lacking and corned willy is king. But do not get the impression that they won't all be glad to see New York again, and to get back on the old job. The flap of a pair of trousers about one's ankles will feel mighty welcome.

Very truly,
H. H. SHEARER.

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Submarine Crossing at Harlem River

By Clifford M. Hartley, Assistant Engineer, Empire City Subway Co.

No. 1—Portion of twenty-duct subway on East 149th Street, built above the surface of the street on a rubble masonry foundation, on account of the projected raise of the street grade

THE construction of electrical subways throughout the city of New York, as we have already shown in the pages of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, is frequently productive of strange modifications in design, and unusual problems not often encountered elsewhere These arise from different causes, chief among which is the widespread congestion of subsurface structures. Among others may be mentioned the crossing of highway bridges, tunneling under railway lines, and special designs and methods made necessary by the rapid transit work. It is occasionally necessary, further. to establish a new river crossing, or submarine, and the work which we will describe in this article belongs to the latter class.

Factors Influencing Construction

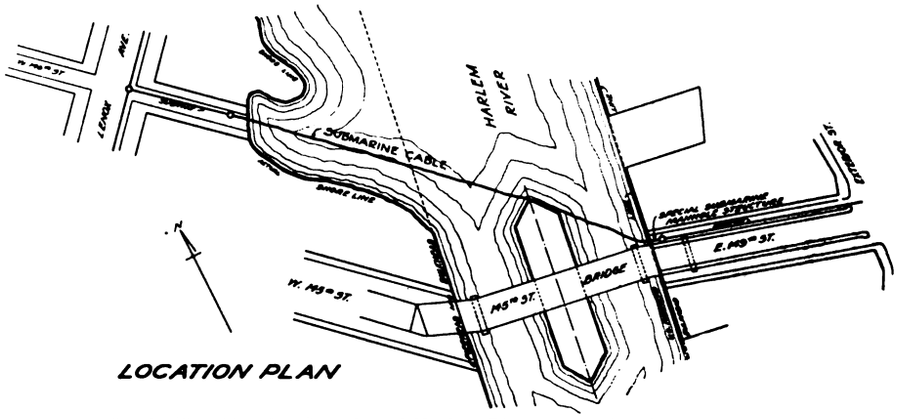
OWING to the congestion of the existing Third Avenue crossing of the Harlem River, the engineers of the Telephone Company found it expedient to provide relief by running two trunk cables—one from the Audubon central office to Melrose, and the other from Melrose to certain West Side Manhattan offices. In order to make this possible, it was necessary to build a subway on 149th Street from the Harlem River to Spencer Place, and from Park Avenue to Courtlandt Avenue. This subway is in itself unique, in that for the greater part of its length it was built on a fill above the surface of the street. The grade of 149th Street, from Courtlandt Avenue to Morris Avenue, was to be changed, this change involving a raise of nine feet at a point half-way between these two streets, and this special form of construction was followed in order to allow for the increased cover over the subway.

Location of the Cable

THE Harlem River at this point runs North and South, and the Western or Manhattan terminus of the submarine is in a manhole located on West 146th Street, from which manhole the new subway was built west to Lenox avenue, and on Lenox Avenue from 136th to 138th Streets, and from 145th to 146th Streets. The banks of the river, or Ship Canal, as it is known, are protected for most of their length by bulkheads, which also serve as docks. At the location in question it is 400 feet between the bulkhead lines, and the channel is spanned by a drawbridge connecting West 145th Street with East 149th Street. The draw rests on a masonry pier in the middle of the river, and the two approaches on smaller piers about 30 feet out from the bulkheads, as shown in Fig. 2, which is a location plan of the site of the work.

Unstable Soil Conditions

THE Eastern or Bronx terminal of the submarine crossing, which embodies the structure we are about to describe, is located just off the outside or northerly line of the bridge approach, and for most of its length is contained within the area comprising the bulkhead and the retained fill be-



No. 2—Plan Showing Location of Harlem River Submarine Telephone Cable

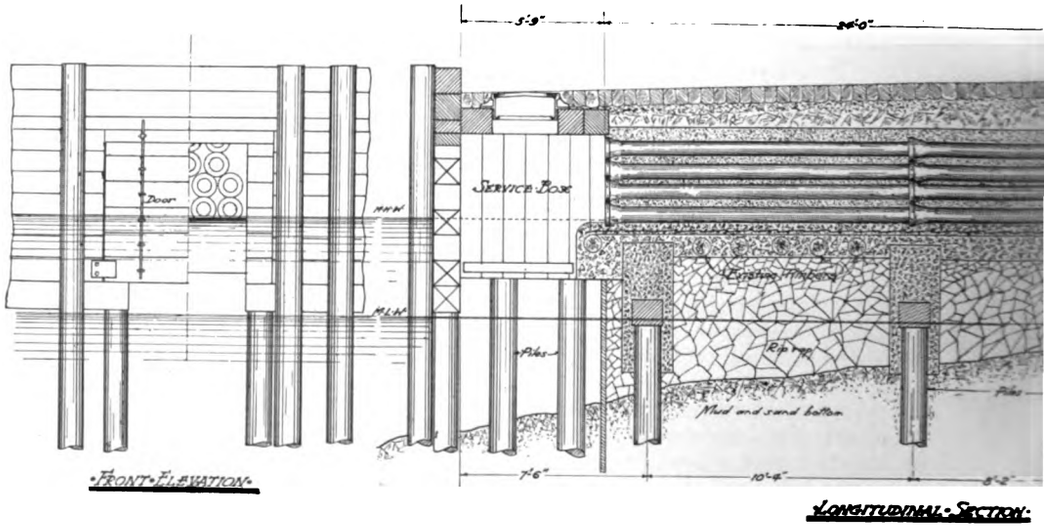


FIG. 3
EMPIRE CITY SUBWAY CO'S STR

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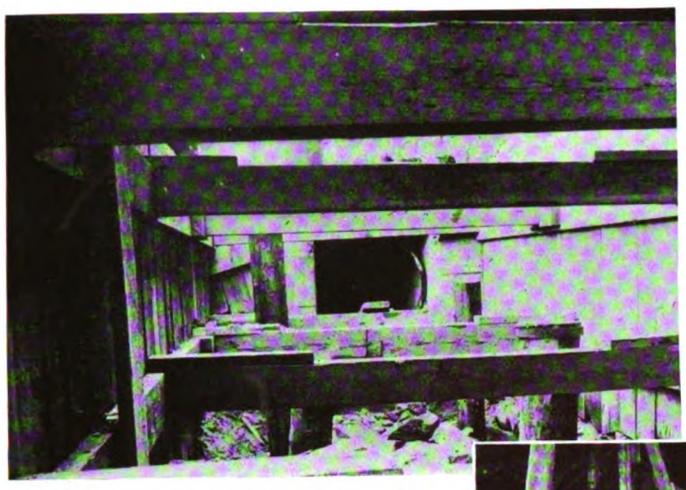
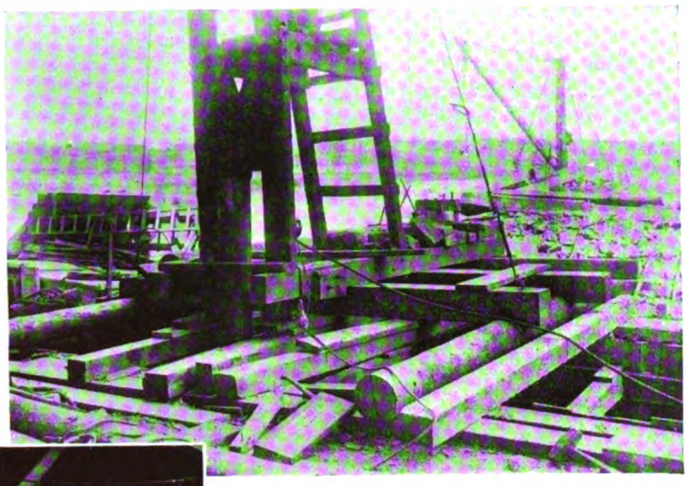


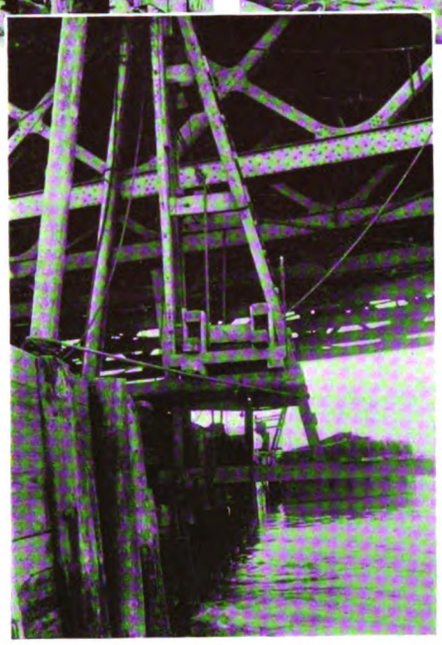
No. 4—Within the excavation, showing method of sheathing and bracing, and tops of piles



No. 5—Pile-driver supported over the excavation on notched beams resting on round timbers, which were greased to facilitate moving

hind it. This bulkhead, originally a cribwork of piling and heavy timbers, was found to be in such a bad condition as to complicate the problem of securing a stable structure, rather than affording a protection, as had been anticipated. At normal mean high tide the water rises to the level of the bottom of the pipes forming the special subway construction, and in time of flood and ice it will be entirely submerged. It was therefore necessary to provide an independently solid and substantial foundation, in case there should be any future weakening or movement of the surrounding fill.

The subway proper, on East 149th Street, ends in a manhole located 30 feet back from the bulkhead. This manhole rests on solid ground, on a concrete foundation 18 inches thick, reinforced with expanded metal. It is a street-surface manhole, 12 feet long by 4 feet wide, with a clear



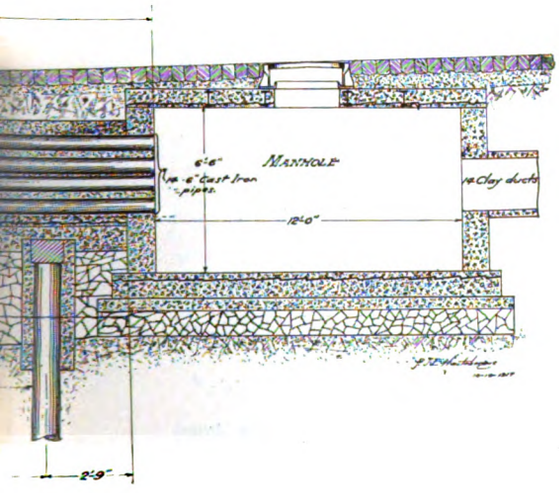
No. 6—Method of driving piles outside of bulkhead. The pile shown here was under the bridge, and it was necessary to hang the pile driver over the bulkhead and at the same time lower it so that its top would clear the under side of the bridge

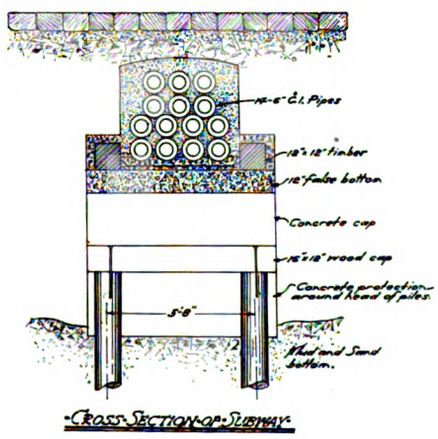
head-room of 6 feet 6 inches, and possesses no unusual features of design worthy of comment.

The special structure provided to take care of the cables from this point to where they enter the water, consists essentially of a 14-duct subway of 6-inch cast-iron pipes, 24 feet long, resting on a foundation of concrete and piling, and terminating in a service box located just back of the bulkhead. The excavation for this work, a trench 30 feet long and eight feet wide, was carried down by hand through a loose, unstable fill of sand and silt to a depth of eight feet. It was tight-sheathed with 3 by 9 inch sheathing, and braced in the usual manner with 6 by 8 inch timbers. The bottom was found to be soft mud and sand.

Driving Piles

NINE 12-inch spruce piles were driven for the foundation, six inside the bulkhead and three outside. Owing to this comparatively small number, it was considered unnecessary to go to the expense of obtaining a power-driven pile driver; consequently, after considerable difficulty, one was procured with a hand-operated winch. After driving three piles by this method, however, it was adjudged too slow, and the remainder were driven with the same machine, but with a team of horses to furnish the motive power for lifting, which arrangement resulted in doubling the speed. The pile driver was equipped with an 800-pound hammer having a drop of 25 feet. It was mounted on two greased skids made of sections of piles (spanning the excavation) so that it might be easily moved by sliding it in one direction, and by rolling it—or rather the skids—in the other direction. It proved quite satisfactory. The piles were driven 2 feet 10 inches each side of the centerline; the first pair 2 feet 9 inches from the





CROSS-SECTION OF SUBWAY.

TURE AT 149TH ST. AND HARLEM RIVER.

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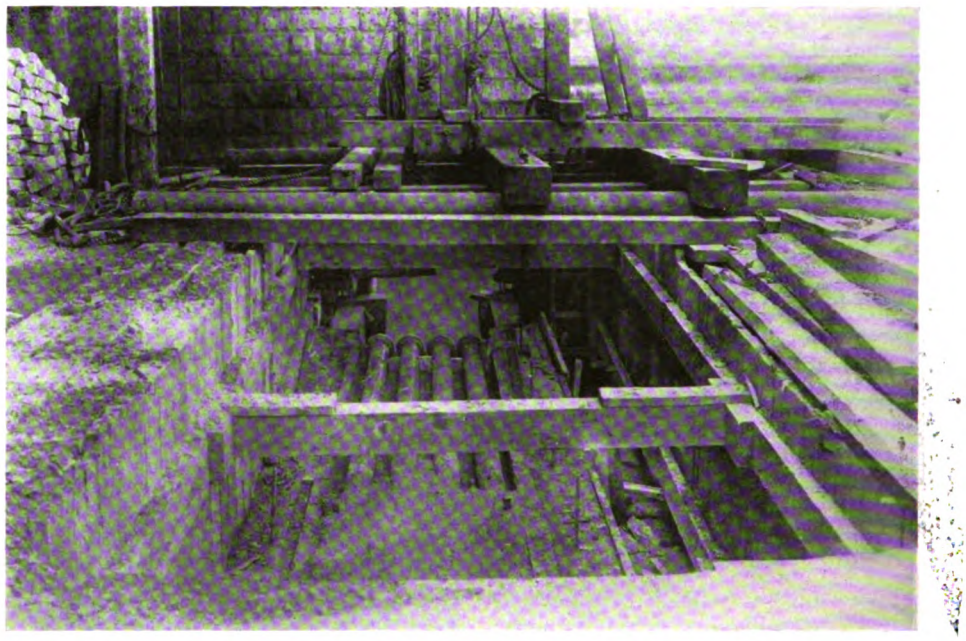
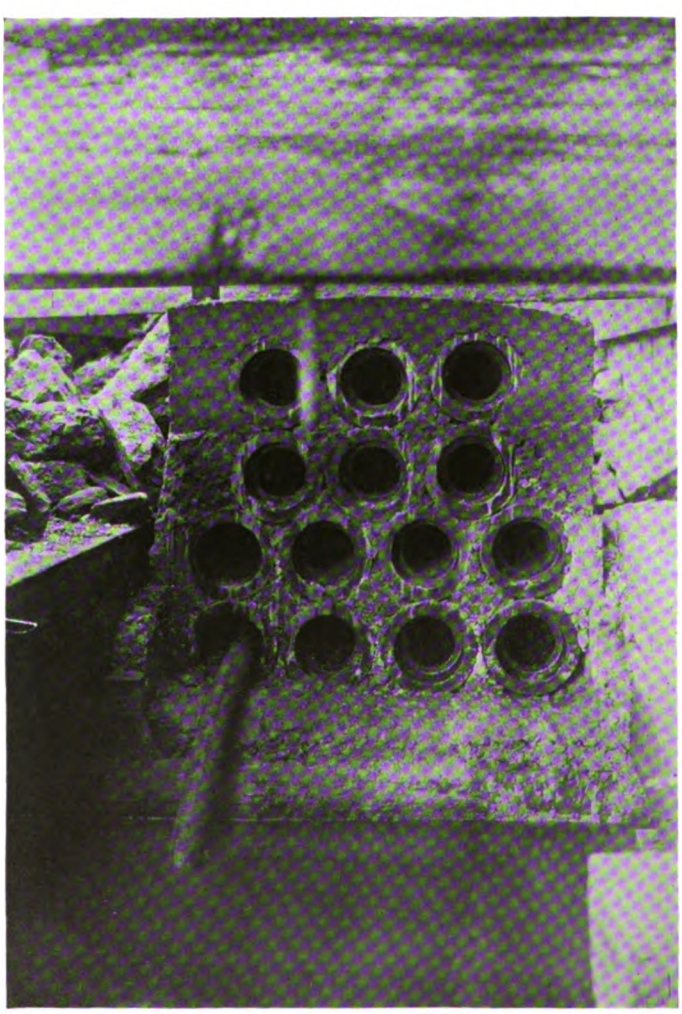
manhole, the next pair 8 feet 2 inches from the first, and the third pair 7 feet 6 inches back from the bulkhead. They were put down to the refusal of the 800 pounds falling 25 feet, which gives a theoretical extreme bearing power of 53.8 tons per pile, and a safe load of about 1/6 of this, or 9 tons per pile. Originally 60 feet in length, the piles were started by jetting with compressed air, and, after they were driven, were cut off a little above the bottom of the excavation, and capped with 12-inch by 16-inch caps, in pairs. The length actually in the ground varies from 34 feet to 56 feet. The tops, protruding above the surface, were encased in concrete for protection, and the space around and between was filled in with rip-rap.



No. 7—Looking down on top bank of six-inch cast-iron pipes partly encased in concrete

Laying the Cast-Iron Pipe

ON top of this was placed a false bottom of concrete 12 inches in thickness, which in turn supports the reinforced concrete foundation for the cast-iron pipe. Fig. 3, showing a longitudinal section of the structure, gives a good idea of the various features of the design. Cast-iron pipe was selected as the duct material for this location rather than wrought iron or steel, on account of the greater resistance afforded by its heavier section to the corrosive action of sea water. The twenty-eight 12-foot lengths of pipe were laid in the formation shown in Fig. 8, which is a view of the face of the structure, and shows a cable that was drawn in during the progress of the work. It was necessary to use 6-inch pipe on account of the large size of the submarine cables, which will barely enter a 4-inch pipe. The joints were made simply with jute, as the space around and between the pipes was filled in with concrete and a concrete envelope carried up and over the top of the bank.



No. 8—Front face of cast-iron pipe structure built in water which rises to about one foot below the bottom ducts. Note the heavy and substantial nature of the construction

The service box immediately back of the bulkhead was constructed entirely of 12 by 12-inch timbers, with the exception of the standard cast-iron frame and cover, and an iron locking-device on the front. It rests on two existing timbers of the bulkhead, which in turn are supported by four piles, two inside the bulkhead and two outside. The sides of this box are sheathed with 2 by 9-inch planks, while the bottom is open, permitting the cables free access to the water. A section of the front face, formed by the bulkhead, is removable, making a door that may be entirely taken out in case of necessity. The bottom and top timbers of this door are mitered on the ends, and are held in place by bolts. The remainder are fitted on the outside with eye-bolts, through which passes an iron rod that holds them all together.

Wiring By 'Phone

The Professor of English literature was endeavoring to send a telegram via the telephone route. He had secured the attention of the clerk, and when asked to whom he intended to send the message he began:

"Mr. A——"

"Yes."

"M——"

"Yes."

"P——"

"Did you say 'B'?"

"No, no—'P'—stands for philtre, you know."

"Oh, you mean F."

"Not at all. I mean P—P, for pneumatic.

"Huh?"

"Can't you understand? I distinctly said P; P, standing for pshaw."

"*Wha-at?*"

"Confound you, P!! P, as in phthisis."

"You go to blazes!"

And the receiver was indignantly hung up.—*Judge.*

She Had Experience

An applicant for a telephone job at Memphis, when asked if she had ever had any operating experience replied: "Yes, I have had my adenoids removed."

Long Lines Traffic Doings.

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Wiring for Battle

"Over the top" they go, to wrest another trench from the grasping hands of the Hun. Their advance is timed to the second, and is preceded by a barrage of shell fire, directed by telephone from an observation post in No Man's Land. They are full of vigor and confidence, for they know their supports will not fail them

From Le Monde Illustré, Paris

THE story of how the Americans took the town of Cantigny holds a great interest for us all, it being a first attempt on a large scale made by the Americans:

American troops charged to the capture of Cantigny yelling, "Now we're in Germany! Let's wallop hell out of 'em and go on to Berlin!"

Back at headquarters, the American officers waited anxiously for news. After forty-five minutes a voice came over the field telephone:

"Hello! This is Cantigny!"

And the headquarters knew that the Americans had taken one of the most important towns on the Amiens front and had won their biggest victory of the war to date.

The report came from a Signal Corps Captain. Wire carriers, ignoring the German counter-barrage, followed American infantry and French tanks in the attack. When Cantigny fell, the field telephone station was ready for business!—*The Evening Sun.*

And so it is with every advance operation that is made. Wire carriers, operators, linemen,—all ignoring the barrage, run forward inspired with but one thought,—to establish communication. Whether doing advance work, going forward with the attacking troops, whether wiring the trenches, and tying them up with the reserve trenches, or establishing telephone communication to the rear of the fighting army,—they are always ready for action, with a fine disregard for self.

Dodging the Bomber

THE method which the signal corps men find it necessary to use, makes their work extremely hazardous when within firing distance of the enemy. This is due to the fact that a detachment, consisting of ten men, four on horseback, and six on a wagon drawn by four horses, makes an excellent target for enemy reconnoiterers.

The story is told of how, during the retreat from Mons, a cable wagon was sent out to establish a line of communication between two units that had been separated. The first wagon, with poles, wire, and all the necessary equipment, departed on its errand. An enemy aeroplane circling overhead let drop a bomb in the right place, and destroyed it. A second was sent out, to meet with the same fate. A third set forth to accomplish what the two others had failed to do. The men detailed felt that they were going to certain death, but, contrary to the expectation of all, they succeeded. Such are the fortunes of war.

Laying Cable in the Rear

WIRING for battle is an interesting portion of the work of the army in the field. Let us suppose that it has been decided to establish telephonic communication from a point far to the rear of the fighting forces, up to the first line trenches. The cable wagon, with its ten men, starts out, carrying poles for bridging crossings, and four drums of cable, each containing five miles of insulated copper wire. The inside of each drum is connected with the wagon, and on the box seat is a telephone instrument. As the loose end of the cable is payed out, one of the men connects it with another telephone, and remains at the starting point. The wagon moves away quickly towards its objective.

One man rides ahead of the outfit to select a suitable course, while another works the telephone on the wagon, to keep in touch with the man who remained at the stationary end of the line. A third man manipulates the drum, letting out the cable, and two others, who also sit in the wagon, armed with mathook and spade, are ready to jump down whenever the outfit comes to a crossing, and dig a small trench, four inches deep, in which to bury the cable, so as to prevent its being cut by passing vehicles.

Having buried it, they tie each end of it to some stationary object nearby, so that it will not be pulled up.

Then the wagon proceeds on its way, only about three or four minutes having been consumed by this task.

Through fields, forests, uphill and down, the procession goes, two more

THE TWO-MAN REEL

Frenchmen, repairing telephone lines after the German retreat. They wire places that the cable wagon cannot reach

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men on horseback bringing up the rear, and swinging the cable up on bushes, trees, fence posts, windmills, straw stacks, and every available place, with their pronged sticks. What one misses, the other does not. Through all the apparent disorder there are system and order, and the wire is laid at an average rate of six miles an hour.

When a large crossing is reached, they use another method of wiring, for there the cables cannot be buried. The four men on horseback work together, erecting two poles, each eighteen feet high, one on either side of the crossing. This takes about six minutes. No time is lost.

Recently, on the American front in Picardy, American soldiers found that the Moroccans, without any intention of sacrilege, had utilized the large crucifix that stood in the centre of the market place in one of the little villages, to elevate the telephone wires from the ground and send them across the road ahead. They had insulated and wired the uplifted right knee of the figure on the cross. At the foot of the cross a rudely made sign had been nailed, warning the passersby that this was an exposed crossing, and should be negotiated with speed.

ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATION IN THE ALPS

Evidently, to be a line man, one must be a good mountain climber, for all sorts of tremendous difficulties must be met and solved, and poles must be erected in almost impossible places. But these men are ready to tackle any job, and have already accomplished wonders

Close to the Front

BUT there are limits described for the cable wagon and its ten men. When close to the front, they find it increasingly hard to work in a body, and the character of the work changes.

Air lines can no longer be used, and the cables have to be buried in deep trenches dug for them, so that occasional shells cannot hurt them or tear them up. These lead up to the trenches, whence a group of four men take them in hand, one of them paying off the cable, done up in a reel, consisting of about 2,000 yards of smaller gauge than that used in the wagon set.

The second man proceeds, placing little wooden pegs in the sides of the trenches, and two others follow the man paying out the cable, and tie it to these pegs.

No matter what happens communication between the front lines and headquarters cannot be interrupted for any length of time. Knowing this, each army does its best to sever the wires of the other, and succeeds in many of its attempts. A great many devices are

ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TROOPS UNDER FIRE AND THE REAR

Where poles are rare, and the land is a waste, the telephone men take advantage of every shell-shattered tree trunk, and utilize it as a support for their wires. These are doing faithful service, and are, in a sense, milestones of the progress of the Allied troops. Even an Austrian shell embedded in the tree to the right is used as a peg for the wire wound on it

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BURYING CABLE

French engineers laying wires for telephone and telegraph system underground work. Men lined up in the trench, ready to drag the wires along the trench dug for that purpose. Somme district, France

therefore resorted to, to lessen this danger, such as laying the cable in loops, one of which will always preserve the contact, and laying the wires in sets of from three to fourteen, and on both sides of the trench.

Some of the most splendid exhibitions of loyalty and courage have been given by the operators who, though not counted among the fighting forces, do vital work for the army.

We can get a picture of the value of the work of these Signal Corps men, who establish the lines, and those who maintain them, as well as operate them, in an excerpt from an article that appeared in *Leslie's Weekly* describing Foch in action,—at the telephone!

Foch—Generalissimo

"GENERAL FOCH does not sacrifice his own men," the officer replied. "He sacrifices Germans."

Then he told me a story.

In another sector during a battle not long ago, the colonel commanding a certain regiment that was supposed to advance in conformation with the general plan telephoned to the regiments on his right and left and found that they had not advanced because the wire entanglements in front of them had not been cut. So this colonel remained in the trenches. A little later the brigade commander telephoned to know if the colonel had advanced. He explained why he had not—because the regiments on either side of him could not move, and if he went forward, he would be in the air and unsupported.

"You must go forward," the general said. "It is orders."

The colonel telephoned again to the regiments beside him and remained in his trenches. Once more the brigade commander ordered him forward.

"It is orders!" the general said again.

A third time the colonel was ordered forward and he had to take his men out of the trenches. He took them to the crest of the hill in front of them, where they waited all day for the others to join them, and at nightfall retired to their trenches. Although this was accomplished so skilfully that there was but a single casualty—one corporal wounded, whom the colonel, himself, carried back to the trenches on his shoulders,—a great risk had been run for a wasted movement.

Such a performance would be inconceivable under General Foch. He would have known whether the wire was cut in front of all the regiments, and the orders for that regiment to advance would never have been given unless the others could have supported it. General Foch makes war a formidable thing for the enemy, but his men know that he never sacrifices them needlessly.

GENERAL FOCH DURING A BATTLE

Another tradition is that in a battle General Foch always goes on the field himself. This, doubtless, arose at the Battle of the Marne, when twice the French center was driven back very near to the château where the general had his headquarters. I asked about this, also.

"It is ridiculous," replied the officer, "to think that General Foch would be so unconscientious as to go to a loophole in the first line trenches, just to see fifty yards of Germans."

The officer gave me a description of the scene when General Foch commands an army in battle.

"General Foch is to be found in the big room at his headquarters, during a battle," the officer said. "He stands before a large scale map with a pencil in his hand and the telephone receiver at his ear. His staff stands in a semi-circle behind him. There is perfect silence and the only movement is of the general's pencil on the map as he follows the battle and ponders the detail of the district where the fighting is in progress.

"He has two gestures. One is persistent and constant. It is his hand rising to his mustache to tug at it slowly and strongly. The other is to wave back into his place in the semi-circle an officer who has come in and made his report. This is a true picture of General Foch commanding in a battle, and the thing that is most impressive is the utter stillness as the semi-circle of officers watches the general before the map."

ARRIVAL OF WIRES AT CENTRAL POST, FRANCE, SOMME DISTRICT

There is an elaborate system of wiring at the front, with a great deal of duplication of wires, to forestall breakage through shell-fire. What seems at first sight to be a disorderly maze is a well-planned system

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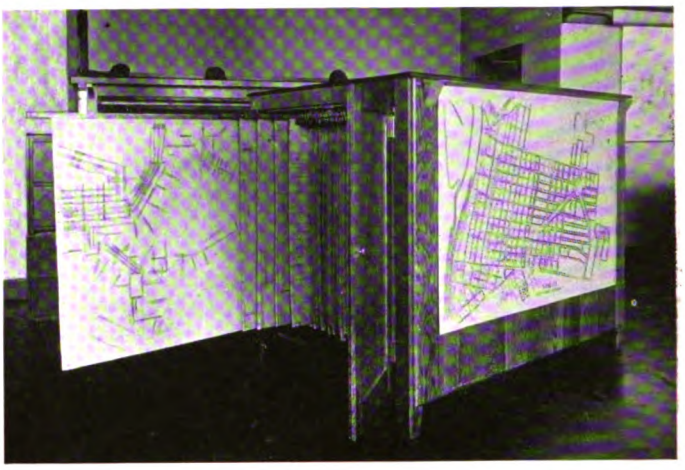
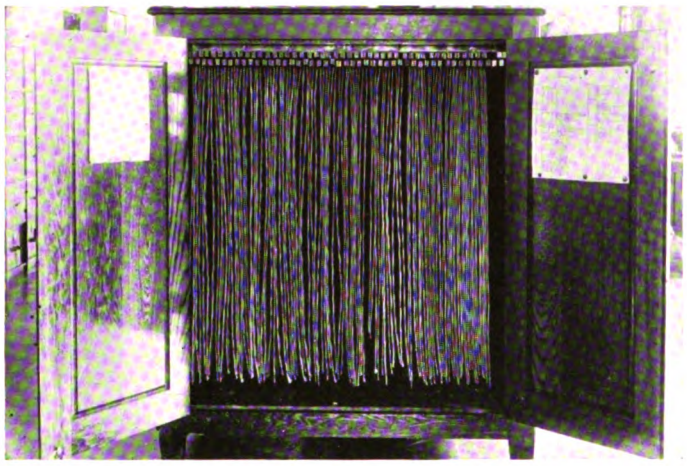
When filed in drawers or tubes tracings become wrinkled and folded, necessitates the keeping of mounted prints for daily reference



A large cabinet for holding tracings keeps them from undue wear and tear, make the prints available for use, and eliminates mounting



Tracings are systematically mounted and filed in order. A number to tally with an index is written on the end of the stick which holds them in place

The test of a filing system is in the using. A map removed from the cabinet may be hung on a small rack at the side of the cabinet, or placed conveniently on a table

A Plan Well "Mapped Out" for Filing Tracings

By Frank A. May, Chief Clerk to Division Plant Engineer, Western

IN all engineering offices records are considered one of the biggest assets. Maps, and the tracings made from them, constitute some of their most important tools. As is seldom the case with valuable possessions, it is almost harder to keep these records in good condition than it is to acquire them. Like the mountains in "Pilgrim's Progress," there is always a way over for those of stout will. Similarly there is always a solution to a problem.

By constant innovations and changes in systems, the workings of an office may be kept "up to the scratch" and abreast of the times. This is the policy that telephone men believe in, and that is the reason none of the offices are behind the time with methods "out of date."

During the past few years we have tried different ways of filing large record tracings, such as the use of drawers and large tubes, as shown in illustration No. 1. In either case we find the tracings wearing and tearing in a short time, due to the fact that in drawers the large tracings would become wrinkled and folded. In tubes, invariably the tracings are not rolled tight enough and in filing they are torn. Another objection to tube filing is that the edges of the tracings are curled so tight that it is almost impossible to flatten them in order to obtain a clear print.

By filing the tracings in either manner mentioned above, it was necessary to keep mounted prints of our cable charts for daily reference. This was not considered advisable on account of the double expense of daily posting to date both the map and the tracing.

After trying the above plan for some time we believed a considerable saving of time and expense could be made if some kind of a cabinet could be built, whereby the tracings would be filed so that they could be referred to quickly and used instead of mounted maps.

We looked about for ideas and, after considering several, we designed the cabinet shown in illustration No. 2. Here the tracings are laid upon a tag manilla paper which keeps the tracings perfectly flat, both sides of the paper being folded over the tracing and bound tight with eyelets. The bottom of the tracing is left loose and flush with the edge of the paper. The top of the paper is folded over the tracing about two inches and both are attached to two sticks which are fastened together with short stove bolts which are countersunk, leaving the sides of both sticks perfectly smooth. They are then slid on light metal tracks which are made so that there will be two rows of tracks, upper and lower.

Each map is numbered across the end of the stick and can be easily

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There is a fat man's race, the cow at the extreme right is probably acting as umpire

"Three to get ready and four to go," marks the send-off for the wheelbarrow race

There is also a three-legged race with an unappreciative audience in the background

THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER OF THE TELEPHONE SOCIETY HOLDS AN "OPEN AIR" MEETING

located by referring to the index, as shown in illustration No. 3.

These tracings filed in this manner can be removed and hung on the side of the cabinet for reference purposes, as shown in illustration No. 4, or can be laid flat on a table and worked upon the same as a mounted map.

In case it is necessary to make a blue-print of these tracings we have a small punch which removes the eyelets and leaves holes so that they can be used again. A screwdriver will remove stove bolts as nuts are countersunk in the stick and remain intact.

Tracings used in this way, with all information posted thereon, can be replaced when worn out at a small expense, when compared with the time and expense of mounting and the saving in posting both map and tracing day by day.

W. S. S.

DURING the recent War Savings Stamp drive, June 22 to 28, the Greater Buffalo Advertising Club War Savings Stamp Committee had its headquarters in our Telephone Building in Buffalo.

As a commentary on the work of this committee, Mr. Finley H. Greene wrote the following letter to Mr. Spaulding:

THE GREATER BUFFALO ADVERTISING CLUB
W. S. S. Publicity Committee
Buffalo, N. Y., July 1, 1918.

Mr. C. A. Spaulding,
Division Commercial Manager,
New York Telephone Company,
Buffalo, N. Y.

Dear Arthur:—

I want to thank you for the fine coöperation extended by you and all other officials of your company to the Ad Club ladies' team which handled the War Stamp sales in your building during Pledge Week. The best indication that the coöperation was worth while was that this team led all others by a good, safe margin. Your help is sincerely appreciated by the War Stamp Committee, as well as the officers of the Greater Buffalo Advertising Club, and in writing you this letter, I want to mention especially the help given to these women by Messrs. Wollmuth, Moss, Anderson, and Graff.

Yours very truly,
F. H. GREENE,
Vice-Chairman.

But the Rochester men are "on their toes" when it comes to a ball game between friends

Outdoor Meeting of Rochester Chapter of Telephone Society

THE Rochester Chapter of the Telephone Society had a real attack of the "back to nature feeling" which is apt to creep on one in the balmy days, especially when one is the proud possessor of a "war garden" and has had a taste of it. Although it is somewhat unusual for an entire organization to be affected in this way, the members of the Telephone Society in Rochester succumbed on Saturday afternoon, June 29, at 2:30 P. M. Individually and collectively they hied themselves to Corbett's Glen, and in true Shakespearean style held their meeting on the greensward. There under the trees, with the gentle zephyrs fanning their faces, they elected the officers for the ensuing year.

The Nominating Committee, which consisted of Messrs. O'Hea, Bruce, Fields, Lawn and Poss, reported that they had selected G. G. Estes for Chairman, and H. H. Angevine for Secretary-Treasurer. L. M. Lynch was nominated to act on the Executive Committee for the coming year. As a result of a motion made by B. F. Gibson, the above candidates were elected to office unanimously.

The business of the meeting accomplished, the members tested their mettle in performing athletic feats to the amusement and entertainment of those not taking part in any special event. The big event of the day was the baseball game of married men versus single men. Two guesses which won! Right, first time! Single men! The fat men's race was rather hard on the fat men, but if their proverbial joviality had been taken as a criterion, they all won. The fifty-yard dash limbered the men up for the various other events, all of which required agility in more ways than one.

The winners in the events were as follows:

Winners in Athletic Events

Fifty-yard Dash, won by Mr. Gibson, Mr. Le Baron second; Broad Jump, won by Mr. Le Baron, Mr. Smith second; Three-legged Race, won by Mr. Gibson and Mr. Magill, Mr. Le Baron and Mr. Smith second; Back-to-Back Race, won by Mr. Gibson and Mr. Spears, Mr. Kline and Mr. Thomas second; Wheelbarrow Race, won by Mr. Le Baron and Mr. Smelt, Mr. Kline and Mr. Thomas second; Quoit Pitching, won by Mr. Phelps and Mr. Lawn, Mr. Poss and Mr. Bruce second; Fat Men's Race, won by Mr. Keenan, Mr. Poss second; Baseball Game, Married Men vs. Single Men, won by Single Men.

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Frank W. Conn

FRANK W. CONN died at his home in Brooklyn on July 12, at the age of sixty-three years. On June 1 he fell and broke his hip. While recovering from the accident, he contracted pneumonia, which developed into double pneumonia after a relapse. His funeral services were held at the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Messiah, of which he was a member, on Monday, July 15. A large number of officials of the Company attended the services as a token of the universal esteem and affection in which Mr. Conn has been held for so many years.

Frank W. Conn

Mr. Conn began his telephone career in the early days of the business. He was born in Toronto, Canada, September 26, 1855, and while still a child, moved with his family to Dunkirk, N. Y., where he entered the employ of the Dunkirk Telephone Exchange Company on August 1, 1879. If he had lived a few weeks longer he would have rounded out a full thirty-nine years in the telephone business.

Mr. Conn remained in Dunkirk until January 1, 1883, when he moved to Elmira and became identified with the New York and Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company. On November 1, 1887, he was transferred to the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company in Brooklyn, where he remained until the time of his death. For more than thirty years, therefore, Mr. Conn was active in telephone work in Brooklyn. When the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company was merged with the New York Telephone Company he was given more important duties for which he was so ably fitted.

One of the Brooklyn papers said of him that he was "one of the most widely known and beloved men in Brooklyn's business, civic, and club life," and that he was "a strong, capable business executive, a keen and ardent promoter of civic movements of broad conception and high value, and a kindly philosopher." This is an appreciative and true characterization of the man as he was known and regarded by thousands of telephone men with whom he had been associated.

"Brooklyn loses in his death one of her best citizens," says the Brooklyn *Daily Times;* and the telephone company loses one of its best employees.

Charles E. Nelson Dies in the Service

IN an attempt to salvage a sea plane from submarine chaser 193, on which he was stationed, Chas. Edward Nelson lost his life. While trying to attach a tow line to the plane, he dived overboard and sank immediately without a struggle, never coming to the surface again. Whether he struck some unseen object beneath the surface, or died from some other cause, will probably be never known.

It is something, however, to die in the service of one's country in the performance of duty. Even though that duty was not at the front, under fire, he met death in his effort to serve, and will be numbered among those of whom Laurence Binyon has said:

> They shall not grow old
> As we that are left grow old;
> Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn . . .
> At the going down of the sun and in the morning
> We will remember them. . . .

Charles Nelson's friends, and he had many, will remember him as one of the most popular and efficient men in the Company's motor vehicle corps, where he served in the Construction Department of the Long Island Division at the time when he entered the Navy. His short career with the Navy was full of promise, for immediately after enlisting he was selected to take a special course in marine engineering at Columbia University, on the completion of which he was appointed chief machinists' mate.

Charles E. Nelson

Edmund Leo Cone

EDMUND LEO CONE met death in the service on June 28. He was born July 8, 1886, at Jersey City, N. J.

He graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology in 1908 with the degree of Mechanical Engineer.

Edmund Leo Cone

On July 4, 1910, he was employed by the Real Estate Department of the New York Telephone Company, and on October 24 of the same year he was transferred to the Building Division of the Engineering Department. He resigned on August 31, 1917, to enter the military service in the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps, after vainly trying to enlist in the Lafayette Escadrille earlier in the year.

After completing ground school work at the United States School of Military Aeronautics, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., the squadron in which he graduated was sent to Ellington Field near Houston, Texas, for its training.

On April 6 he received a commission of Second Lieutenant after qualifying as a Reserve Military Aviator, which entitled him to wear the much coveted and highly prized silver wings.

He was made a bombing pilot and continued his advanced flying work, associated with Lieutenant Ronald Knapp, his bombardier. They worked together for about two months and Lieutenant Cone was about to come home on furlough when he met an untimely end on the night of June 28, 1918, which was figuratively and literally his last flying.

He and his bombardier were night bombing, about eleven o'clock, when engine trouble developed at an altitude of about two thousand feet, causing their plane to go into a tail-spin, the *bête noire* of all aviators. In this much-feared tail-spin, in which the plane drops nose first with the tail spinning around, describing circles, it is out of control. Many aviators have lost their lives in this way.

When Lieutenant Cone's engine began to miss, he signalled to clear the field and was seen falling in a tail-

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spin. He brought the plane out of the tail-spin and began spiralling down to the ground, when suddenly it entered a nose dive and crashed just outside of the lighted landing field. Lieutenant Cone was instantly killed by being thrown into the engine, when his safety belt broke. Lieutenant Knapp, his bombardier, although injured, was able, with assistance, to walk to the hospital.

Lieutenant Cone was intensely patriotic, knew not the meaning of fear, and was highly esteemed by his superiors, both in the Army and in the New York Telephone Company. His untimely end was not only a shock but a real loss to his colleagues and friends, of whom he had many, in and out of our company.

Lieutenant Cone's younger brother, after driving an ambulance in France, is now flying there in the American Aviation Corps.

Organization Changes

Traffic Department

D. D. Field, district traffic manager, Riverside district,, temporarily assigned to work in Washington.

L. B. Barrett, chief traffic inspector, Manhattan-Bronx Division, appointed acting district traffic manager, Riverside.

A. A. O'Keefe, traffic inspector, appointed acting chief traffic inspector.

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Pauline Avery, evening chief operator, Greeley, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Alice M. Barrett, chief clerk, Columbus, appointed supervisor.

Miss Amelia Bappler, information bureau senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed information bureau supervisor.

Miss Marjorie D. Behnken, evening supervisor, Greeley, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Catherine Brinckman, evening chief operator, Riverside, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Susanna M. Catterson, information bureau operator, Spring information bureau, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anastasia Connolly, senior operator, St. Nicholas, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Jennie Dunne, evening senior operator, Stuyvesant, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Rose E. Fant, evening senior operator, Gramercy, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Frances Feeney, senior operator, Farragut, appointed supervisor.

Miss Margaret Foy, senior operator, Lenox, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Bertha Hagemiller, senior operator, John, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna Halloran, senior supervisor, Rector, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Mary J. Heinsohn, evening supervisor, John, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Josephine Kessler, senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna B. Nelson, evening senior operator, Schuyler, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Veronica O'Gara, evening senior operator, Cathedral, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Katherine F. Ryan, evening supervisor, Greeley, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Ella Shillington, senior operator, Spring, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna B. Snee, senior operator, Madison Square, appointed supervisor.

Miss Josephine Sullivan, evening senior operator, Morningside, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Agnes Thorpe, senior operator, Circle, appointed supervisor.

Miss Laura E. Wilson, supervisor, Rector, appointed senior supervisor.

Miss Minnie Wylie, senior operator, Bryant, appointed supervisor.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss J. Bingham, senior toll clerk, Harlem accounting office, appointed assistant employment supervisor.

Miss M. V. Coughlin, instructor toll division school, appointed supervisor of toll division school.

Miss M. A. Kerwin, supervisor toll division school, appointed employment supervisor, reporting to auditor of receipts.

Revenue Accounting Department
Harlem Accounting Center
Notice of Removal

The Harlem Accounting Center, E. A. Girard, Division Auditor of Receipts, has moved from 193 Manhattan Avenue to the Knickerbocker Building, 206-224 West 35th Street, West of Seventh Avenue, New York.

The telephone number has been changed from Cathedral Official 88, to Knickerbocker Official 88.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Anna G. Byrnes, evening senior operator, Garden City, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mary E. Callan, senior operator, Long Island toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Katherine V. Carey, senior operator, Coney Island, appointed supervisor.

Miss Jennie Dussault, evening senior operator, Yaphank, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mary McGovern, evening senior operator, Flatbush, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Ruth R. Stromberg, evening senior operator, Freeport, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Hazel Terry, evening senior operator, Rockville Centre, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Margaret Wolfle, evening senior operator, Glen Cove, appointed evening chief operator.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss H. A. Nyborg, appointed addressograph supervisor.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary E. Ecay, appointed chief operator, Port Chester.

The following additional operators have been sent to Washington:

Miss E. G. Condon, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Miss M. J. Hoose, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Miss A. Kain, Mount Vernon, N. Y.

CONTINGENT OF CENTRAL DIVISION OPERATORS WHO LEFT FOR WASHINGTON ON JUNE 26, 1918

Left to Right: Miss Geraldine M. Coons, Cortland, N. Y.; Mrs. Elizabeth Potter, Elmira, N. Y.; Miss Elizabeth Ford, Binghamton, N. Y.; Miss Ethel Reagan, Syracuse, N. Y.; Miss Mary Haley, Binghamton, N. Y.; Miss Agnes Delano, Rome, N. Y.

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Miss M. L. Krewet, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Miss M. O'Brien, Mount Vernon, N. Y.
Miss M. R. Ryan, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Miss D. E. Webler, Mamaroneck, N. Y.

New Jersey Division

Plant Department

Fred F. Diem, lineman, appointed line foreman, Plainfield sub-district.

George E. Herbert, installer, appointed installers' foreman, Elizabeth sub-district.

Francis A. Wilson, lineman, appointed line foreman, Jersey City district.

Traffic Department

Miss Sara J. Ash, chief operator, Union, appointed chief operator, Bergen.

Miss Gertrude M. Baird, evening information operator, Morristown, appointed supervisor.

Miss Josephine Cummings, supervisor, Morristown, appointed chief operator.

Miss Charlotte G. Edwards, senior operator, Market, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Teresa Farley, senior toll operator, Newark toll board, appointed supervisor.

Miss Margaret Ford, information operator, Camp Merritt, appointed supervisor, Englewood.

Miss Nell Frace, chief operator, Morristown, appointed chief operator, Elizabeth.

Miss Elizabeth A. Flynn, evening chief operator, Union, appointed chief operator.

Miss Frances Haight, operator, Hackensack, appointed chief operator, Westwood.

Miss Helen Heary, evening operator, South River, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Helen Kling, senior operator, Market, appointed supervior, operators' training department.

Miss Margaret C. Murphy, evening senior operator, Elizabeth, appointed supervisor.

Miss Ida Prina, supervisor, Union, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Kathryn B. Ryan, night operator, Millburn, appointed night chief operator.

Mrs. Edna Scholl, supervisor, Mulberry, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mollie E. Spires, senior operator, Red Bank, appointed chief operator, Keyport.

Miss Gertrude C. Thornton, senior toll operator, Newark toll board, appointed supervisor.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Katherine R. Deegan, evening toll supervior, Kingston, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mary C. Mager, evening senior toll operator, Troy, appointed evening toll supervisor.

Miss Genevieve F. Martin, evening senior operator, Schenectady, appointed evening supervisor.

Mss Margaret V. McDermott, evening senior operator, Albany (Main), appointed evening supervisor.

Mrs. Nellie I. Smith, senior operator, Schenectady, appointed supervisor.

The following operators went to Washington in June:

Miss Lillian K. Asher, Glens Falls.
Miss Ruth G. Balfoort, Albany (West).
Miss Loretta D. Bond, Albany (Toll).
Miss Vera W. Bromley, Troy.
Miss Margaret F. Burns, Albany (Main).
Miss Margaret V. Collins, Albany (Main).
Miss Dorothy A. Cook, Albany (West).
Miss Margaret L. Coyne, Albany (West).
Miss Gladys E. Dykeman, Albany (West).
Miss Agnes L. Fish, Troy.
Miss Rose D. Gillooly, Albany (West).
Miss Agnes E. Glavin, Albany (West).
Miss Mary J. Gray, Albany (Main).
Miss Dorothy H. Haack, Albany (Main).
Miss Mary Haire, Cohoes.
Miss Mary F. Harrigan, Albany (Prs. Tr. Dept.).
Miss Myra A. Judson, Poughkeepsie.
Miss Antoinette R. Ketterer, Kingston.
Miss Irene C. Kohns, Albany (Main).
Miss Leona R. M. Lareau, Glens Falls.
Miss Loretta C. Latham, Albany (Main).
Miss Mildred M. Lester, Saratoga.
Miss Louse A. Meyer, Troy.
Miss Ella R. Murray, Kingston.
Miss Doris L. Proux, Glens Falls.
Miss Lena M. Proux, Glens Falls.
Miss Marguerite H. Rootes, Troy.
Miss Eva A. Savage, Hudson Falls.
Miss Florence L. Sloan, Newburgh.
Miss Frances M. Snyder, Saratoga.
Miss Myrtle I. Strang, Hudson Falls.
Miss Alice Ungerman, Albany (Main).
Miss Helen Van Heusen, Albany (West).
Miss Bessie V. Wires, Amsterdam.

Central Division

Traffic Department

J. P. Lyons, assistant district traffic chief, Utica, resigned to accept position as district traffic chief with the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company, Richmond district, Richmond, Va.

Miss Mary Cheney, evening senior operator, Syracuse, appointed night chief operator, Syracuse-Warren.

Miss Mary Connolly, senior operator, Watertown, appointed supervisor.

Miss Theresa M. Kilmartin, evening senior operator, Syracuse-Warren, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Olive Mosner, night toll operator, Syracuse, appointed night chief operator, Syracuse-Warren.

Miss Iona Shute, senior toll operator, Syracuse, appointed evening toll supervisor.

The following girls left for Washington in June:

Miss Genevieve Barclay, Syracuse, N. Y.
Miss Geraldine M. Coons, Cortland, N. Y.
Miss Agnes Delano, Rome, N. Y.
Miss Elizabeth Ford, Binghamton, N. Y.
Miss Mary Haley, Binghamton, N. Y.
Mrs. Elizabeth Potter, Elmira, N. Y.
Miss Ethel Reagan, Syracuse, N. Y.

Plant Department

C. O. Bruner, district chief clerk, Elmira, transferred to Western Electric Company.

F. W. Heidel appointed cashier.

G. H. Ketcham, supervising clerk, Syracuse, appointed district chief clerk, Elmira.

G. E. Newman, cashier, appointed supervising clerk.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Harriett T. Barry, evening operator, appointed evening suprvisor.

Miss Clara W. Borne, clerk, Crescent, appointed chief clerk.

Miss Aileen Clody, evening senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor, temporarily assigned to Washington.

Miss Mary A. Dowdell, clerk, division office, appointed assignment clerk.

Miss Martha G. Fuhrmann, evening senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Elsie A. Haettick, clerk, Howard, appointed chief clerk.

Miss Anna G. Humphrey, evening senior operator, Oxford, appointed evening supervisor, temporarily assigned to Washington.

Miss Lucy Keller, evening Sunday relief operator, Tupper, appointed supervisor.

Miss Lydia Maas, supervisor, Howard, appointed instructor.

Miss Katherine Wellman, senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor.

Commercial Department

G. S. Lord, agent-in-charge, Fairport, transferred to Canandaigua.

G. W. Walters, local manager, Canandaigua, resigned to accept position as manager of the Seneca Gorham Telephone Company, Stanley, N. Y.

The Fairport, East Rochester, and Pittsford Exchanges, comprising a part of the Honeoye Falls Local Commercial District, transferred to the Rochester Local Commercial District, and Fairport continued as a collection office only.

The Canandaigua, Victor, Naples, and Penn Yan Exchanges, now comprising the Canandaigua local commercial district, transferred to the Honeoye Falls Local Commercial District.

Five Companies Now With the A. E. F.

THE five companies of the Signal Corps, U. S. R., composed of employees of the New York Telephone Company, which were formed last year, are all now a part of the foreign expeditionary forces of this country. Two companies, one made up of employees of Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division, and the other of employees of the Long Island Division, received their military training at Camp Alfred Vail, and sailed for France last August under the command of Major H. H. Shearer. This is now known as the 407th Telegraph Battalion.

One company, composed of employees of the Hudson, Central, and Western Divisions, received its military training at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, and sailed for France the latter part of May of this year. The battalion of which this is a part is now known as the 403rd Telegraph Battalion. It embarked from Camp Merritt, and before sailing was visited by officials from the up-state divisions and from headquarters at New York, and by many of their friends and relatives.

The remaining two companies, one composed of employees of the Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division, and the other of employees of the New Jersey Division, received their military training at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa, and sailed the middle of July under the command of Major C. Badeau. It embarked from Camp Mills. Most of the boys were given an opportunity to visit their homes during the few days that intervened between their arrival and departure, and many of the officials of the Company in the three down-state divisions made trips down to their camp to see them.

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

Utilities Are Entitled to Reasonable Relief in View of War Conditions

THE Western States Gas and Electric Company applied to the Railroad Commission of California for authority to increase its rates sufficiently to offset the increases in the cost of oil, materials, and labor, since the company's present rates were established by the Commission in 1915. As a result of its operations during 1917, the company had but 4.56 per cent. of the reproduction costs of its property for depreciation and return, but despite this, it did not ask for any increase in its rate of return.

The Commission stated that it realized the difficulty under which public utilities were laboring on account of the present abnormally high cost of labor and materials, and was desirous of affording such relief as appeared to be fair and reasonable under all the circumstances. The utilities on the other hand should of course not expect the public to bear all the burden of such abnormal conditions. This was recognized by the Western States Company, in that it asked only for enough revenue to cover the increased cost of oil, labor, materials, etc., and did not expect any increase in its return, although the rate of such return which it had received was considerably less than might be considered a fair return under normal conditions. The Commission accordingly approved a schedule of rates which it was thought would accomplish the result desired by the company.

Efficient Public Utilities Are Essential to Success in the War

THE Federal Government has called upon the Public Service Commissions of the various States to do nothing that would tend in any way to weaken either in operating efficiency or in the maintenance of plant, the public utilities of the United States. President Wilson has declared that it is essential that public utilities should be maintained at their maximum efficiency, and that everything reasonably possible should be done with that end in view. Secretary of the Treasury, W. G. McAdoo, has addressed an open letter to the President, stating that local public utilities must not be permitted to become weakened. He expresses the fear that it may be that here and there because of the prominence given to less important interests immediately at hand, state and local authorities do not always appreciate the close connection between the soundness and efficiency of the local utilities and the national strength and vigor. He states that the public service utilities are closely connected with, and are an essential part of our preparation for a successful prosecution of the war, and that unfavorable tendencies must effectively be checked, whenever they may be found to exist. He urges consideration of the vital part which the public utility companies represent in the life and war making energy of the nation, and that they should, therefore, receive fair and just recognition by state and local authorities. John Skelton Williams, Comptroller of the Currency, in his annual report sent to the State Commissions, declared that it was essential that forbearance and consideration be exercised by State Commissions and municipal authorities, and that the public utilities be permitted to make such additions to their charges for service as would keep in them the breath of solvency, protect their owners against unjust loss, and give them a basis of credit on which to obtain funds with which to meet the strain put upon them by the needs of the national government. He states that the breaking down of these corporations would be a national calamity.

In accordance with said recommendations, the Public Service Commission of Indiana has stated that it will promptly adjust the rates of public utilities in instances where they are proved to be in distress, but that in any such readjustment the companies will not be permitted to capitalize the war, but will be called upon to bear their part of the war burden. In other words, the Commission is not underwriting normal earnings on public utilities, but is intent on keeping them solvent, in good operating condition, and able to command needed capital.

A Municipality Cannot Require Free Service as a Condition of a Franchise Grant

THE Hanover Water Company applied to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey, for approval of an ordinance of the township of New Hanover, authorizing it to construct and operate a water system in said township. The franchise required among other things that the company should furnish the township certain fire protection service free of charge. The Board refused to approve the ordinance, pointing out that the law specifically provided that no public utility should make or give directly or indirectly any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage to any person or corporation or to any locality.

An Adjustment of Telephone Rates During This Period of Inflated Prices Is Essential to the Protection of Investments

THAT a telephone company which had not in the past been able to create a depreciation reserve or a sufficient surplus of earnings out of which adequately to care for depreciation should be permitted to protect its investment by an adjustment of its rates which should remain in effect during the period of inflated war prices, was held by the Public Utilities Commission of Utah in approving the application of the Bear River Valley Telephone Company for permission to increase its rates.

A Commission May Fix Reasonable Rates Despite Provisions of a Municipal Franchise

THE Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania sought advice from the Attorney General of that State as to its power to alter the rates fixed by a municipal franchise. The Constitution of Pennsylvania provides by Article 7, Section 9, "that no street passenger railway shall be constructed within the limits of any city, borough, or township without the consent of its local authorities," and the question was whether said constitutional provi-

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sion operated to confer upon the local authorities of a municipality the right to specify as a condition to their consent, the rates which the public utility should charge, and if so, whether the Legislature could change such rates, and if it could, whether it had the power to delegate such power to the Commission.

The Attorney General advised the Commission that to it had been delegated authority to supervise and regulate the rates of public utilities to the full extent of the Legislature's power, and that, under the Public Service Company Law, whenever the Commission should determine after a hearing that the rates of any public utility were unjust, or unreasonable, or inadequate, or unjustly discriminatory, or unduly or unreasonably preferential, the Commission could determine and prescribe by specific order the maximum, due, equal, and reasonable rates to be thereafter charged by such utility.

Further, the Attorney General held that the Legislature possessed the power to change the rates so fixed by local authorities. He pointed out that the regulation of the rates of public service companies, including street railway companies, was a function of the State, exercisable under the attribute of the State's sovereignty called the police power, and was not to be taken away from the Legislature and invested in local subdivisions of government except by the plainest constitutional direction. He advised that Article 7, Section 9, of the Constitution was not to be construed as withdrawing by implication from the Legislature a portion of the sovereign power of the State which it had exercised from time immemorial and vesting it in the authorities of local subdivisions of government, who owe their very existence to the Legislature, and who may cease officially to be at the legislative whim.

Rates Must Be Such as to Permit a Continuance of Adequate Service During the War

THE Bridgeton Gas Light Company applied to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey for authority to increase its rates. It appeared that the company was fulfilling its franchise obligations by furnishing service throughout its entire territory adequate in character and at a reasonable cost, and that before much if any additional business could be taken on, more capital must be invested in extensions and additions necessary to keep up the standard of efficiency demanded by the public and required by the Board. The testimony showed that the cost per thousand feet of gas in 1917 was nearly 16 cents above the average for 1914, 1915, and 1916, and that the cost for the last few months was approximately 14 cents greater than the average for 1917.

The Board authorized the company to impose a war surcharge of 15 cents per thousand cubic feet holding that the increasing costs must be recognized, and that if the company's services were to be continued on an adequate basis, it was necessary that they be paid for on such basis as would enable the company to continue in business and to furnish adequate service.

This Is the Transitory Period Between the Unregulated, Speculative and Sometimes Reckless Past and a Regulated, Responsible, and Reliable Future for Public Utilities

IN disposing of the application of the Louisiana Water Company for authority to increase its rates, the Missouri Public Service Commission states that one result of public service regulation of rates should be that public utilities should not appear in the list of the speculative and variable, but rather in the list of the stable and permanent investments with safe and reasonable returns. That, therefore, if the speculative feature of public utility investments is eliminated to the extent that rates must always be fair in the sense of bringing in no undue profit, it is unavoidable that the investor must be protected against undue losses, not due to carelessness or bad judgment. The Commission states that we are now in the transitory period between the unregulated, speculative, and sometimes reckless past and a regulated, responsible, and reliable future, and that leaving out altogether the consideration of the utilities' interests and considering only the benefit of the public—if it were possible to divorce the two—it is entirely to the public interest that a reasonable compensation, and only a reasonable compensation, be made to the utility for the service which it renders. It is not possible to compel the furnishing of service of a high standard, where the payment for same is niggardly or noncompensatory. Attempts to curtail operating expenses result in poor service and the failure to make adequate provisions for additions and betterments too often results in a practical breakdown of the service to the great detriment of the communities served. From the public standpoint only, therefore, neglecting the investor altogether, it is desirable that both the character of the service and the compensation therefor be controlled by the public. The public has this right since the utility is allowed to use certain public property, and to exercise certain paramount powers such as the power of eminent domain. The Legislature has vested public utility regulation in the Commission, including the power to fix fair rates and charges, regardless of the provisions of municipal franchises. The exercise of this power with courage and justice does not mean that every action will result in the individual bills being reduced, but it does mean that the charges will be fair, and that whatever action is taken, is intended to conserve the best interests of the public by assuring it safe and adequate service at the lowest practicable rate. While it cannot be disputed that a franchise ordinance entered into between a city and a public utility is binding upon each until the courts construe it to the contrary, or until the state through its police power finds it expedient and necessary to make an alteration of rates and service in order that the welfare of the public may be better conserved, the contracting parties to such franchises should not overlook the fact that the state is a party at interest in these contracts, and may exercise its right of regulation of the subject matter of such contracts by virtue of the sovereign police power.

A Few Pointers

What you *have* done is history. The question is: What are you doing *now?*

There will be lots of time to admire our work when it's all finished.

No man ever had a better opportunity to do bigger things.

Do everything as thoroughly as if you were shooting a German.

We're going to win, but how soon depends largely upon you.

Hot air won't beat the Kaiser. He's thoroughly acclimated to it. One ship is worth a flock of encyclopedias.

Where there's a ship, there's a way.

A correspondent wants to know who "Dock" Builder is. He's the guy who puts hips on ships.

Hog Island News.

Toll Service

Told by Contractor Connelly, of Boston, on a recent trip through Elmira.

Mr. Connelly—Hello, Toll, I want Mr Toner, President of the Portland Cement Company, at Pittsburgh.

Toll Operator—(after a few moment's delay)—Mr. Toner is in Florida and won't be back this afternoon.

L. M. SMITH,
District Traffic Chief.

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THE TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
Published Monthly by the

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Holding Up the Nation's Defense

The telephone played a tremendous part in this Nation's mobilization for war. It continues vital to the Government's program.

At the same time it has remained at the service of the whole people whose demands upon it grow apace with that of the Government.

The public is entitled to the best service that it is possible to render. But the public has a partnership in the responsibility for good telephone service.

It takes three to make any telephone connection: the person calling, the company, and the person called. Without the co-operation of all three the service suffers.

The telephone company can make the connection, but no words can be heard at one end of the line which are not properly spoken into the transmitter at the other. The relation between the speaker and the hearer is the same as the relation between the orator and his audience. It cannot be maintained if the orator turns his back to the listeners or if the audience is inattentive.

Telephone traffic must be kept moving. Speak distinctly—answer promptly—and release the line as quickly as possible. Don't continue reading when the bell rings.

These seem little things to ask the individual telephone subscriber, but when the individual is multiplied by millions all over this country, it is easy to see how important it is that *all* should co-operate.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy ***One System*** ***Universal Service***

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·The TELEPHONE·REVIEW·

Vol. 9. No. 9 September, 1918

The graying dawn aslant the battle-fields of France
Reveals a scene whereon not e'en the sun
Endures to rest its gaze beyond a fleeting glance
To note the tide of conflict lost and won.

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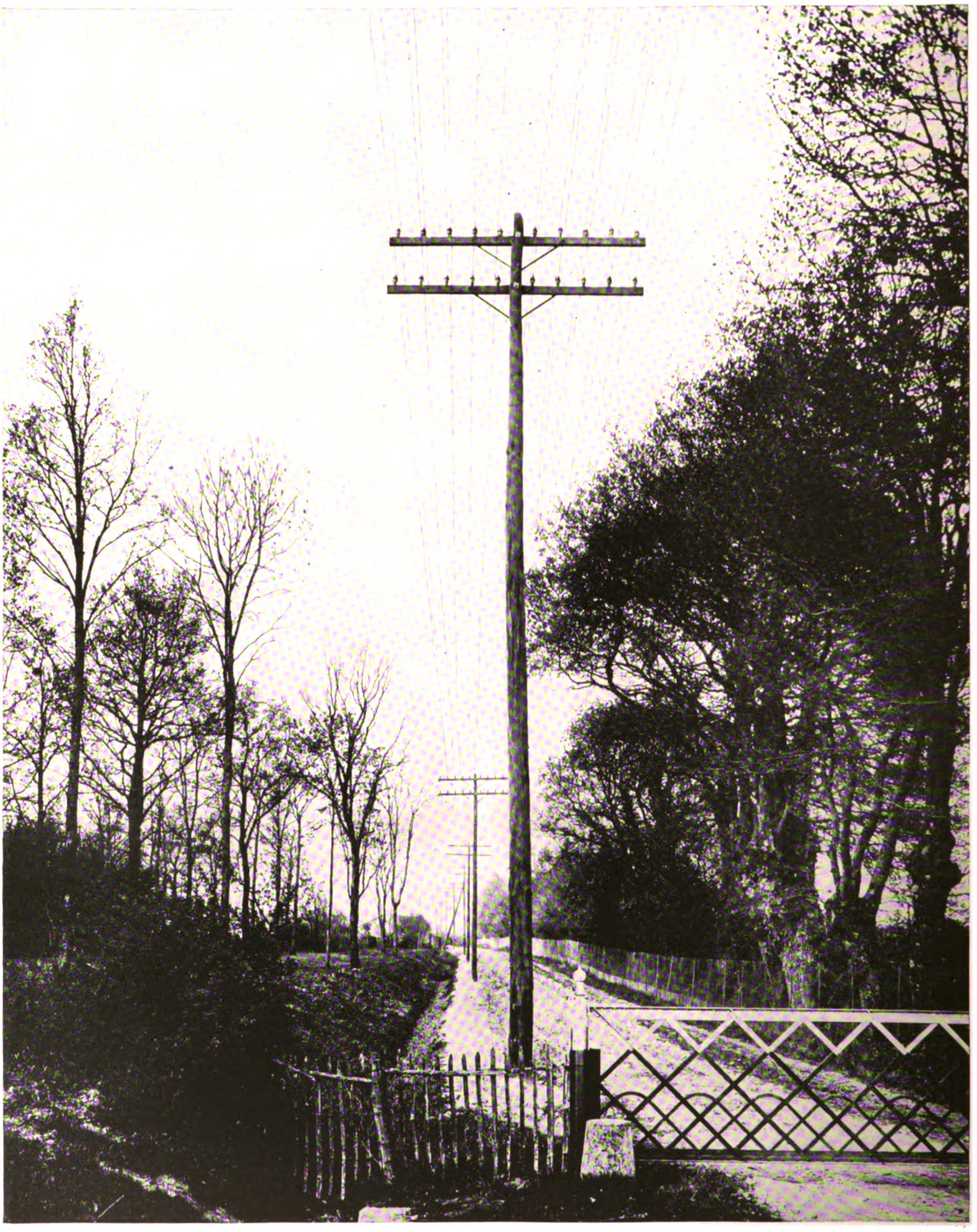

AT A RAILWAY-CROSSING GATE IN FRANCE AMERICAN WIRES ARE RAISED

Approved by Committee on Public Information.

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The Telephone Review
New York September 1918
Vol. IX, No. 9.

The Big Job

UNCLE SAM is now running the wires and we see no need for a lengthy editorial dissertation as to why the good old qualities of loyalty, courtesy, and efficiency should continue to prevail. America and most of the civilized world are united in one cause; and it behooves all of us to do, not our "bit," but our level best toward the victorious completion of the Big Job.

Behind the Lines in the Telephone Company

AN interesting incident recently occurred in the plant installation school in Manhattan. The question of the advantages of employment in the various departments of the Company was under discussion among some of the students, and the instructor, A. W. Oakley, was appealed to for his opinion.

Directing the attention of the class to the clock, he said: "That clock is a faithful servant, and, in some respects, it reminds me of the telephone company. It is an excellent clock, presents a pleasing appearance, all the parts being perfect as man can make them, and performing accurate work. Like the telephone company, it has given continuous service ever since it began doing business.

"The face and hands are the most prominent parts of the clock, because they perform the real function of advertising the time. Like our commercial and traffic departments, they accomplish the work which is best appreciated by the public in general. The face, however, would be useless if there were no works behind it to make the hands go. You are a part of the machinery which makes the telephone company go.

"But, although the face and hands figure largely in our conception of the clock, they are no more important than those other parts that are not seen. The value of the instrument is dependent upon the perfection of each and every individual part.

"Like the parts of the clock, the various departments of the telephone company are equally important, and the prosperity of the telephone business is dependent upon the perfection of the work accomplished by each individual employee.

"You who install and maintain our telephone equipment are fortunate, indeed, to be engaged in one of the most interesting parts of the telephone business. The commercial and traffic departments cannot do business without you, and your work would be useless if the other departments ceased to perform their functions."

Just as a nation is as strong as its people, so the company's strength lies in the efficiency of its departments, which, in turn, depend upon the individual, and every employee, by being loyal and giving his or her best, becomes one of those all-important "workers behind the lines" about whom we hear so much to-day.

Telephone History

TIMES change, methods differ as the days go by, and the habits and customs of one period are superseded by those of another. "Out of sight, out of mind," as the saying runs. Some incidents are passed along from one generation to another by word of mouth, but others would be lost forever were it not for the fact that here and there written documents survive, sometimes by chance, sometimes by design.

It is from such documents that much that is authentic in the history of the world is compiled, that glimpses into antiquity are obtained, and the course of the development of the world's industry may be traced.

Such a change in the customs and methods of the world has been wrought by the telephone, and such a record is an old contract which recently came into the possession of Mr. James Robb, of the President's office, and which we reproduce on another page. The contract recalls the first attempt to introduce the telephone in New York. Reminiscences of equal interest are related in letters which we also print from Mr. Wm. A. Childs and Dr. E. H. Lyon.

Only four decades ago all that there was of the telephone business,—a few instruments and a big idea,—was owned wholly and entirely by only four men, and all the rest of the world was willing that they should continue to enjoy the monopoly. It was with the greatest difficulty that capital could be secured to meet expenses. The first effort to introduce the telephone in New York was a failure. Charles A. Cheever and Hilborne L. Roosevelt, the pioneers in the attempt, gave up after losing all the money they put in it. Mr. Vail came to town from Boston and on behalf of the owners of the patents, he paid them a sum equal to what they had lost,—about $18,000, and kept the business going. Under his direction, slowly it succeeded, not only here, but throughout the country, until the importance of the telephone has grown beyond the power of words to describe.

The history of the telephone is one of struggle and persistency, of large vision, and of brilliant business and scientific achievement.

Records of great interest and value are missing, but such as exist would be of the greatest possible use as links in the chain of events which was forged by the early telephone pioneers.

Even better than these, because more illuminating, are the recollections of the men and women still living who played such notable parts, though they might have been humble ones, in establishing the greatest system of communication that exists in the world to-day.

It is hoped that the example of Mr. Robb, Mr. Childs, and Dr. Lyon will be followed by many others.

For the Sake of Economy

FOR the sake of economy, THE TELEPHONE REVIEW will be printed, beginning with this issue, on super-calendered paper, instead of the finer and more expensive coated stock used heretofore. The number of pages will be reduced from thirty-two to twenty-four, and the cover will be done in two printings. Fewer pages will result in a corresponding reduction in the number and conse-

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quently the cost of illustrations, and also in the postage and express charges for distribution.

The importance of the conservation of money, material, and man-power was forcefully presented to all employees of the Bell System in a letter from Mr. Vail which we printed in June and again in July.

This does not mean any lowering of the standards of production or quality of service. On the contrary, it means an increase both in production and quality of service on the part of every department and employee.

Expenses, which would be justified under normal conditions, should be cut out unless required by necessity, and such expenses as must be incurred should be pared down to absolute requirements.

Increased production and increased service must be the result of increased effort and determination in the performance of the duties which are allotted to each one of us. Only in this way can the conservation of money, material, and man-power be accomplished in the highest degree; and there is no greater patriotic service which any of us can render than to do this.

This is the task to which THE TELEPHONE REVIEW has set itself. It is not the size of the magazine, or the paper on which it is printed, but its contents which constitute whatever value and importance it possesses. The credit is due to the employees whose contributions have been published during the past eight years and those now in the military service of the country whose letters are being read with such intense interest.

Employees who have come into the Company during the last eight years may not all know that THE TELEPHONE REVIEW is their magazine and that, as we have already stated, it is made up largely of contributions sent in to us voluntarily.

All employees may send contributions direct to the editor without any intermediate supervision, upon any subjects that interest them.

Operators can write something that would be helpful to other operators.

Linemen, installers, splicers, clerks, and others can tell about different phases of their work and their experiences.

Construction and maintenance forces can describe interesting jobs, the short cuts and minor methods they have found effective, and other matters that would be of interest.

Employees in supervisory positions in all departments can help others by describing the human side of their work.

Development stories can be written by plant, traffic and commercial people about different communities.

Historical information is always wanted.

Soldiers, sailors, and aviators can write what the censors allow.

We want no "purely personals," but almost every story can tell of the personal side of the work and give credit by name and title to the men and women who deserve it.

And now, who can't write something? Send it direct to the editor at 15 Dey Street, New York.

Owing to our restricted space, it will be necessary for us to edit articles more than we have done in the past. This will be done, however, in such a way as to preserve the character of the articles and give full credit to the authors of them.

Possibly this may be an inducement to many who have been a little shy of venturing into the field of literary effort because they thought they could not write for publication. We hope so.

It is only necessary to write us what you want to say,—and whenever possible send us photographs.

The Fourth Liberty Loan

THE campaign for the Fourth Liberty Loan will start Saturday, September 28, and end Saturday, October 19, a period of three weeks.

At the time this is written it is expected that this will be the largest loan ever undertaken by any nation. The nearest approach, we believe, was the British Victory Loan of nearly $5,000,000,000, which was put out after Great Britain had been in the war three years and billions had been raised previously.

Since the fall of 1914 Germany has been offering war loans regularly at intervals of about six months. Her eighth, and latest, loan brought in $3,600,000,000, and her ninth loan is due about the same time that our Fourth Liberty Loan is offered.

We are only in our second year of the war, and there has not been any drain on our national wealth. The point hasn't been reached where we have felt privations such as all the other great nations at war have had to endure.

In buying Liberty Bonds we are not giving away or sacrificing anything. We are only substituting a solid financial investment, at the cost, perhaps, of a little inconvenience, for unnecessary and profitless expenditures. At the most, we are called upon to exercise economy and frugality; to dispense with some, not all, of our luxuries, and use the money to back up the boys who are risking their lives for us in France. We can all do that much and get our money back with interest, even if we can't do what they have been doing. They have been buying bonds and doing the fighting too.

Sticking to the Beaten Track

THE easiest way, the line of least resistance, is the one that most of us follow. If we feel lazy, we slacken up, and if we have to choose between a nice walk in the morning (necessitating an early rising), and a few minutes of extra sleep, with a hurried breakfast and a crowded car-ride, many of us select the latter. Why? Because it is easier to put off rising a few minutes, than to exert enough energy to get up and have that invigorating walk.

So it is with business. We accept a position in consideration of a certain salary, large or small, as the case may be. Certain duties are assigned us, which we are expected to perform. The man who occupied the job previously did his work in a certain way, and because it is easier to follow in his footsteps than to break a path for ourselves, we are apt to rock our brain to sleep and follow the path that he has beaten, blindly.

Not His Job

By Edgar A. Guest, in Detroit Free Press

"I'm not supposed to do that," said he,
When an extra task he chanced to see;
"That's not my job, and it's not my care,
So I'll pass it by and leave it there."
And the boss who gave him his weekly pay
Lost more than his wages on him that day.

"I'm not supposed to do that," he said;
"That duty belongs to Jim or Fred."
So a little task that was in his way
That he could have handled without delay
Was left unfinished; the way was paved
For a heavy loss that he could have saved.

And time went on and he kept his place
But he never altered his easy pace,
And folks remarked on how well he knew
The line of the tasks he was hired to do;
For never once was he known to turn
His hand to things not of his concern.

But there in his foolish rut he stayed
And for all he did he was fairly paid,
But he never was worth a dollar more
Then he got for his toil when the week was o'er;
For he knew too well when his work was through
And he'd done all he was hired to do.

If you want to grow in this world, young man,
You must do every day all the work you can;
If you find a task, though it's not your bit,
And it should be done, take care of it!
And you'll never conquer or rise if you
Do only the things you're supposed to do.

(Ford Times)

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The Government Assumes Control and Supervision of the Telegraph and Telephone Lines

Albert S. Burleson

A JOINT resolution was adopted by Congress on July 16, 1918, authorizing and empowering the President, "during the continuance of the present war," "whenever he shall deem it necessary for the national security or defense," to take possession and assume control and supervision of the telegraph, telephone, marine cable, or radio system or systems of the country, and to operate them "for the duration of the war." The resolution further prescribed that such "supervision, possession, control, or operation shall not extend beyond the date of the proclamation by the President of the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of peace," and provided also, among other things, for just compensation to the owners of the properties.

The President, by virtue of the authority vested in him, issued a proclamation dated the 22nd of July, 1918, taking possession and assuming the control and supervision of the telegraph and telephone systems on and after midnight July 31, 1918, and placing them under Postmaster General Burleson. In his proclamation the President said:

> Until and except so far as said Postmaster General shall from time to time by general or special orders otherwise provide, the owners, managers, boards of directors, receivers, officers, and employees of the various telegraph and telephone systems shall continue the operation thereof in the usual and ordinary course of the business of said systems, in the names of their respective companies, associations, organizations, owners, or managers, as the case may be.

The Postmaster General on July 23, 1918, issued an order appointing "a committee for the governmental management, operation, and control of the telegraph and telephone systems covered by the proclamation of the President." The committee consists of John C. Koons, First Assistant Postmaster General; David J. Lewis, commissioner, United States Tariff Commission; and William H. Lamar, solicitor for the Post Office Department, with the Postmaster General as chairman.

In announcing the appointment of this committee, the Postmaster General stated that while the committee would have charge of the governmental management, operation, and control of the telegraph and telephone systems, yet it would be necessary to divide the work to a certain extent and that Mr. Koons and the Postmaster General would have charge of the administration and organization of the service, Mr. Lewis and the Postmaster General of its operation, and Mr. Lamar and the Postmaster General of the finances.

Postmaster General A. S. Burleson is a native of Texas and a lawyer by profession. He served as a representative from Texas in Congress from 1891 to 1913, and athough reelected for another term, he resigned to accept his cabinet appointment when President Wilson took office in March, 1913.

John C. Koons is from Maryland. He has risen from the position of substitute clerk in the Baltimore post office, to which he was appointed in 1895, to his present official position of First Assistant Postmaster General, which he has held since September 1, 1916.

John C. Koons

David J. Lewis

David J. Lewis was born in the mining district of Pennsylvania, and is a lawyer by profession. He learned to read in a Sunday School, and while working as a miner from the age of nine until he was twenty-three, he devoted his spare time to study, including the law, with such success that he was admitted to the bar in 1892. He moved to Maryland, and from 1902 to 1904 he was a member of the Mary-

William H. Lamar

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land Senate. He was a Representative in Congress from Maryland from 1911 to 1917, and in the latter year was appointed by the President a member of the United States Tariff Commission. While in Congress Mr. Lewis made a special study of telephone and telegraph subjects.

William H. Lamar was born in Alabama. He also is a lawyer by profession, having been admitted to the bar in the District of Columbia and in Maryland in 1885. In 1894 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Maryland. From 1906 to 1913 Mr. Lamar was an Assistant Attorney, United States Department of Justice. On May 1, 1913, he was appointed Assistant Attorney General (now Solicitor) of the Post Office Department.

In a signed statement published July 24, Postmaster General Burleson said: "I realize the immensity of the task which has been entrusted to me by the President's order," and in this statement, as well as in a conference in Washington at which were present Mr. Vail and other representatives of the Bell Companies, the Postmaster General expressed most emphatically his appreciation of the service the companies were rendering, and that such improvements possible to be made would be because of the additional power derived from the government; and he asked for the coöperation and assistance of those who had heretofore been responsible for the service.

In the statement inserted as a supplement in the August issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, Mr. Vail said:

The Postmaster General was equally emphatic in the statement of his desire to conserve the service and properties of the companies with a view of returning them when called upon so to do to the owners in as good condition as received; that it was his earnest desire that the owners should receive just compensation in the full sense for their use.

The Postmaster General, until other instructions are issued, desires that the conduct of operations shall continue as heretofore, and also states that no changes will be made until after consultation and full and careful consideration.

Mr. Vail has promised on behalf of the Bell organization as a whole, "that same loyalty, fidelity, and devotion to the service under the new order of things" that it has given "to the country, to the public service, and to the property in the past."

He has asked all who are identified with the Bell System to make good that promise. We feel that Mr. Vail has only anticipated the hearty response which will come from every employee of the Bell System.

Under Mr. Vail's leadership the organization has created and given to the world a new art, and to this country the most extensive and efficient system of communication in the world,—facilities which the Postmaster General in a signed statement says "have become an imperative need" in the everyday life of the people.

There are now in the military service of the country fifteen thousand employees of the Bell System. Constantly the number is increasing as new drafts are called out. Under the new law drafting men from eighteen to forty-five years of age, inclusive, thousands more will go, thus placing additional burdens of responsibility upon the shoulders of those who remain behind on the job.

On August 1, Postmaster General Burleson in a public statement, said:

I earnestly request the loyal coöperation of all officers, operators, and employees, and the public, in order that the service rendered shall be not only maintained at a high standard, but improved wherever possible. It is the purpose to coördinate and unify the services so that they may be operated as a national system with due regard to the interests of the public and the owners of the properties.

Therefore, in the words of Mr. Vail:

To do one's full duty in each position is the greatest obligation resting upon every person, and is also the greatest opening to future preferment.

Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Mrs. Elizabeth Ancker, senior operator, Greeley, appointed supervisor.

Miss Genevieve R. Campbell, night senior operator, Bryant, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth Conway, senior operator, Worth, appointed supervisor

Miss Mary Gunning, supervisor, John, appointed Central office instructor.

Miss Frances Hoffman, senior operator, Beekman, appointed supervisor.

Miss Sadie Karper, evening supervisor, Cortlandt, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Edna O'Connell, night senior operator, Tremont, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Margaret Shanahan, night senior operator, Beekman, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Lillian Sperling, evening senior operator, Greeley, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Hernina Wegner, senior operator, Worth, appointed supervisor.

Miss Magdalena Weig, night senior operator, Bryant, appointed night supervisor.

Accounting Department

J. E. Leslie appointed general book supervisor, succeeding H. A. Whitaker, resigned to enter military service.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

Walter F. Losee, assistant traffic manager, Market central desk, appointed assistant district traffic manager.

Miss Bessie Allsheskey, night operator, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Sibilla Bather, evening senior operator, appointed evening supervisor.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss Emma Gerhard, senior toll clerk, appointed toll supervisor.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Florence H. Bosse, evening supervisor, Midwood, appointed evening chief operator, Bath Beach.

Miss Irene C. Callahan, evening senior operator, Bushwick, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Eleanor M. Cary, evening senior operator, Jamaica, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Josephine G. Cassidy, evening senior operator, South, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret B. Eagan, operator, Astoria, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Nellie Enright, senior operator, Coney Island, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mabel L. Fischer, senior operator, South, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary F. Keenan, evening senior operator, Bay Ridge, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Alice F. McBride, evening senior operator, Bay Ridge, appointed evening supervisor.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Margaret T. Cunningham, evening toll operator, Goshen, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Marguerite L. Dwyer, toll senior operator, Saratoga, appointed evening toll supervisor.

Miss Marie M. C. English, senior information operator, Albany (Main), appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Viola J. Gillis, night operator, Poughkeepsie, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Elizabeth T. Jones, evening senior toll operator, Schenectady, appointed evening toll supervisor.

Miss Kathleen L Rhatigan, evening senior operator, Albany (East), appointed evening chief operator.

Central Division

Traffic Department

W. P. Forman, appointed assistant district traffic chief, Utica, vice J. P. Lyons, resigned.

Miss Nellie Curtin, senior toll operator, Elmira, appointed evening toll supervisor.

Miss Nora Halpin, senior operator, Herkimer, appointed supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth Welsh, Syracuse toll supervisor, transferred in May for service in Washington.

Plant Department

G. H. Cook, groundman, Syracuse, appointed lineman.

F. H. Crocker, lineman, Rome, appointed line forman.

J. C. Hall, groundman, Syracuse, appointed clerk to construction supervisor, Syracuse.

I. C. Heinley, messenger, division office, appointed clerk, cable department.

H. J. Love, repairman, Binghamton, appointed insideman.

Westchester Division

Traffic Department

J. W. Bellinger, appointed chief clerk of the New Jersey Division.

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Soldiers' Letters from Overseas

His Second Time "Over the Top"

PRIVATE J. J. JENKINS, of the 6th Machine Gun Battalion, U. S. Marines, has done what all the soldier boys and sailor boys are so keen to do,—given a good account of himself. He "got" his Boche, or Boches, going literally through a hail of bullets with his "buddies" to gain his objective. But let him tell his own story. A more graphic account of men actually under fire could not be given.

At the Front, 1918.

DEAR MOTHER:

Well, we have got them going, and, believe me, they are going to keep it up until they reach Berlin. The Fritzies are about buncoed, according to what I have seen, and this is the beginning of the end.

I went "over the top" last Friday (July 19, 1918) and was fortunate to get only a slight scalp wound. I am in a hospital now but feel as healthy and as happy as ever. I say I was fortunate to get only this slight wound and you would agree with me if you could see what I have seen. I have read a lot about hospitals, and all I have read is not a bit exaggerated. The boys certainly get fine treatment and the best of everything to eat. I am able to get around, having but one wound in the head, and I try to make myself useful. There are quite a few of my "buddies" here, and it is just like home.

I suppose you would like to hear how I got hurt. We started "over the top" without any barrage and we surprised Fritz, but his artillery and machine-guns made it hot for us. We had nearly reached our objective, and I felt something knock me down as if I were hit with a baseball bat. I felt the back of my neck for the bullet, but could not locate it. I tried to bandage it up, but had a little trouble. One of my "buddies," who was helping dress our Lieutenant, who was hurt about the same time, saw me and came over to help me. He just started to do my head up when he was shot through the wrist. I then had to tie up his hand as blood was just spurting from it. After this, we were ordered to abandon our gun, as we were all shot up and we could not go on. There was only about one man in the crew who had not been shot. He could not carry and operate the gun by himself.

We started back for a dressing station and it was as hot going back as it was going in. My "buddy" was shot through both shoulder blades, and we were resting in a trench when two Boches put in an appearance. I got the drop on them and they looked scared to death. They were heavily armed; one looked like a traveling hardware shop,—and I got some pretty souvenirs.

A little scalp wound, more or less, does not bother Private J. J. Jenkins

They made me understand they knew where a dugout was, and I had them help my pal to it. It was about twenty feet underground, and about thirty feet by ten feet. It had been used by German officers, and they certainly made it a home. I decided to stay there until the firing had died down a little. This dugout was made an advance first-aid station afterward. I went with the prisoners to the field dressing station and sent the Red Cross men back with a stretcher for my pal. There is nothing much else, except I got to this hospital, and here I am.

Do not worry about me as I am one of the luckiest men in the company,—just a flesh wound in the back of the head, that is all. I hope everybody at home is as well and happy and feeling as well as I am, which is pretty well just now. Give my love to everybody and tell them it will not be long now before we all come marching home.

Private Jenkins, previous to his enlistment in December, 1917, was file clerk in the General Attorney's office.

One of Our Wounded

TERENCE KIRK, once in the Mailing Department of the Company, writes that he has been wounded, but expects to be back in the fray soon. He is recovering from mustard gas in a hospital behind the lines, and is most enthusiastic about the Red Cross. He says, in part:

I know that every penny they get is used by the Red Cross better than anyone else could use it. You cannot imagine the wonderful work they are doing. When one of us gets wounded, he is sent back to the hospital, and I'll bet that he couldn't be treated better in the States,—eating, sleeping, and attention.

Traveling an Education

THE wonderful old châteaux of France have taken the fancy and kindled the imagination of the young Americans in France, who do not let the weight of war prevent their making the most of their opportunities for enjoying Europe's offerings. "Billy" Weatherbee, a member of the 407th Telegraph Battalion, "went for a hike with a comrade, and on the way visited an old château which ages back about six hundred years. It was owned by a king, and is situated on a high hill about fifteen hundred feet above sea level. All that is left is the foundation or pieces of the foundation. From this place one can look all over the surrounding country and at this time of the year it is wonderful." He goes on to say that one of the men in the company who is pretty well informed in French is giving them French lessons, and that they are getting along well in their study, having bought grammars for three and a half francs apiece.

There are many inducements to learn French. Alfred Thompson, formerly in the Revenue Accounting Office, Long Island, says that he is learning enough French to make himself understood at the restaurants,—a very important thing for him, as his appetite is enormous. The children in France, he adds, are picking up the English language fast, and now know many slang expressions. How natural it is for them to learn the wrong thing first! Everything goes in the

Corporal Terrence Kirk, in center, with two trench pals in France. He was formerly in the Mail Room, and is best known to his friends as "Chappy"

JOSEPH W. WILSON
He writes from France: "Judge for yourselves whether army life agrees with us"

"A gang that is on its way to Berlin with Roaring Bill Hommick." They are: Sergeant W. F. Hommick, W. C. A. Finch, R. E. Oatis, C. E. Topping, A. H. Conklin, and H. G. Gibbs

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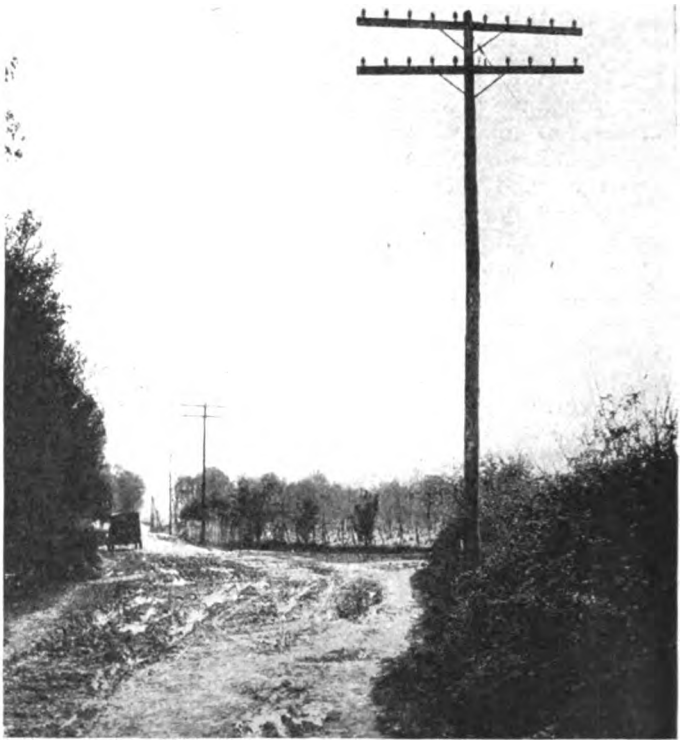
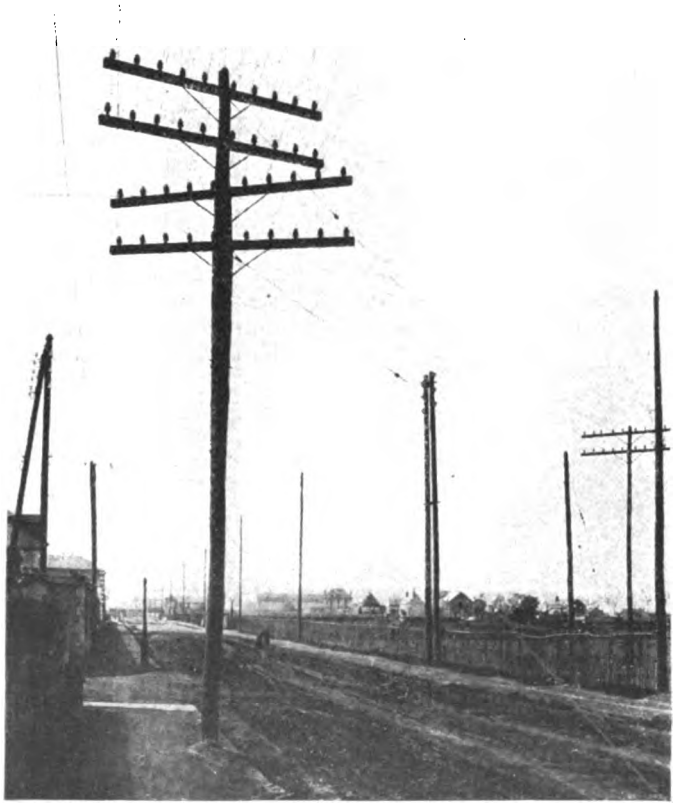
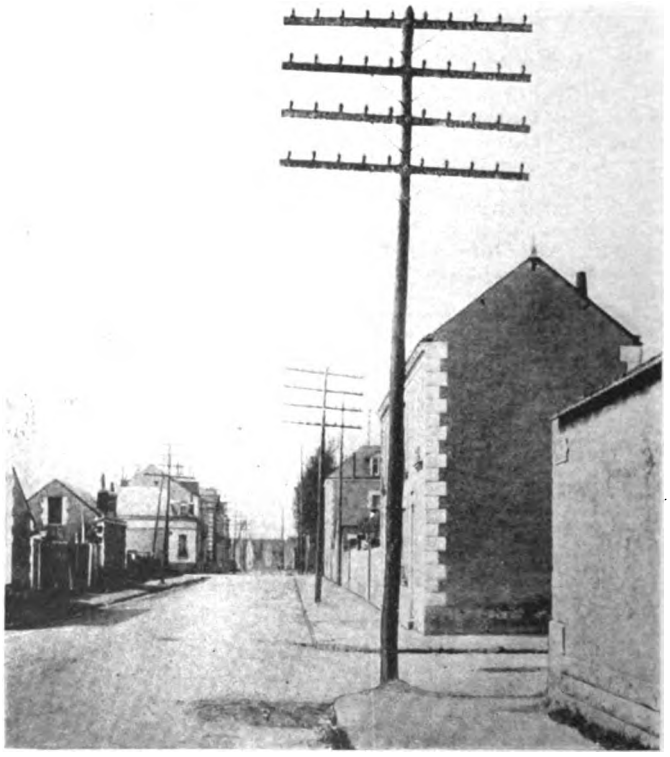
American telephone pole line paralleling French construction



Typical construction that makes France look like America



A familiar American junction pole supplementing the French construction



American telephone lead crossing street of French village

WORK OF AMERICAN SIGNAL CORPS MEN IN FRANCE

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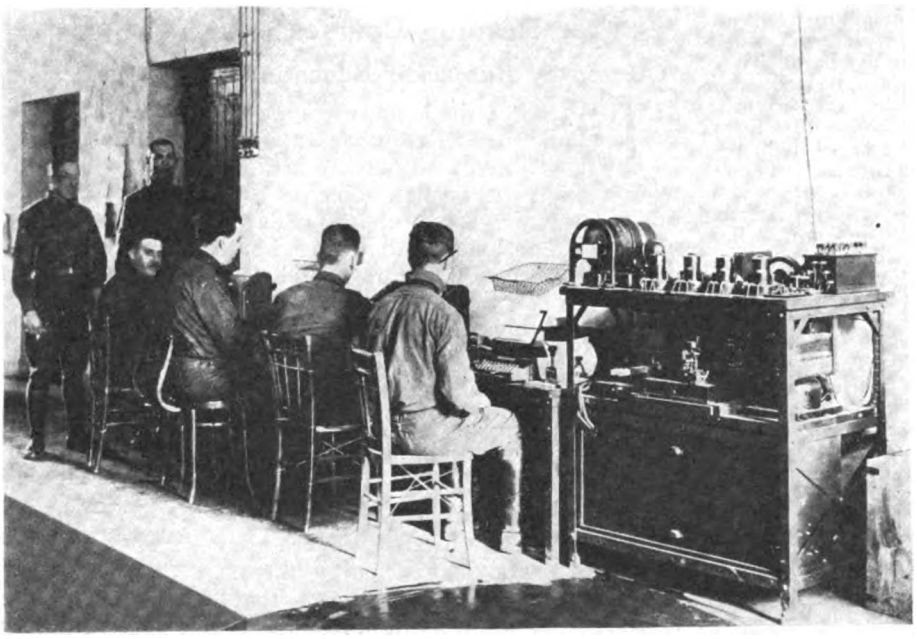
Army, he says, even the queer haircutting process they have, some of the men doing a pretty fair job, although the only shears they have on hand are small Red Cross manicuring scissors.

One must be versatile to be a good army man. Joseph W. Wilson, formerly of the Engineering Department, has two duties,—drafting and driving a motorcycle, the latter of which gives him a chance to see some of the country, with the result that he has visited Nice, and several points of interest along the Mediterranean Sea, and has seen more of France than of America.



American telegraph printer installation in France
Approved by Committee on Public Information

Stationed in Paris

E. J. PATTERSON, at one time a member of the Plant Department, New Jersey Division, seems well content with his lot in Paris, and tells about the long-range bombardment by German Bertha. He, like the Parisians, considers it a waste of ammunition, and nothing more.

After landing I had my first experience with a side-door Pullman, which was marked "40 Hommes" (men) or "8 Cheveaux" (horses), and made quite a trip inland. It was not a very pleasant trip, as it happened to be very cold, and to make things worse, we did not travel at a very great speed, as the locomotive was about the same type as those used on Proctor's railroad.

I only remained a few days at the first stop, when I received orders to proceed to another point to work on telephone and telegraph installation. The place happened to be a good sized city and an historical center, there being a well-preserved building that was built during the fourth century, and also a number of interesting châteaux that dated back to the tenth and eleventh centuries.

Harold O. Judge, formerly of the Long Island Accounting Department

At first we used French and British equipment. Most of the French equipment is made by the Western Electric Company, here in France, but made along French lines. The P. B. X. boards have two separate cord circuits, one for local calls and the other for exchange calls. The British equipment is in about the same class as the French.

Finally, equipment started to arrive from the States. We had one installation, the same as you had at Camp Merritt, and another much larger one, including a No. 4 Test Board, Repeaters and Printers.

AIR RAIDS

I was not here more than an hour when off went Bertha (the long-range gun). The other day it struck two blocks from where I was,—lots of noise, but no damage to speak of. I do not see where they gain anything by it, unless it is the effect they make their people believe it has.

We have had a number of raid scares, but it has been reported that only in a few cases have machines been able to pass over the city. I have seen some of the points where damage has been done.

Last Sunday I was out to see the Palace at Versailles. It is wonderful and the grounds are very beautiful, covering many acres. When you look around out there it is easy to understand why France is a Republic, for it was there that Louis XV. spent millions of dollars improving the palace and the grounds at a time when many people of France were starving.

In traveling around I should judge that I have seen soldiers from all of the allied armies, and also a great number of prisoners.

A short time ago I saw the greatest number of motor trucks that I have ever seen assembled at one place. They belonged to the French. Most of them were American make.

Say! That was some job that you people must have done on the *Covington*. I read the article in th REVIEW [April issue, page 120] this past week. One would think that it was almost impossible to do such a job of that nature in so short a time. I have talked with a former telephone man that came over on that boat at the time the installation was made, and he spoke of it.

Aboard Ship

PETER J. KELLEY, who, before enlisting in the Navy as a yoeman was in the Plant Department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, says that he does not regret the experience he acquired in the Telephone Company, as it has been very helpful to him in the discharge of his duties. He writes:

In addition to my duties as a yeoman, I stand watch four hours on and eight hours off, while at sea. I usually stand my watch in the Forward Fire Control, from which place all voice tubes and telephones to the five-inch guns, one-pounders, machine-guns, and lookout stations radiate. However, on my second trip to France, I stood watch in the crow's nest of the mainmast, which is approximately 100 feet above the deck.

He adds that the French people are a fine race, courteous, congenial, and very democratic, and that they show a very deep respect for the Americans. In Brest he had the interesting experience of seeing a large château bordering on the waterfront. It was built in 47 B.C., and is as beautiful to-day as it ever was. German prisoners were interned in a section of it.

Novel Sights and Strange Tales

ANOTHER man in the Navy gives his first impressions of France and tells a true (?) story about the Marines:

I returned to my ship yesterday after a twenty-four-hour liberty. . . . . Everything is very ancient over here, no elevators, street-cars, or taxis. You can see people riding around in their little dog carts with donkeys pulling them around. It reminds one of what he has been reading about France. The towns are being patrolled by American soldiers, and everybody is on the watch for them. The French speak of them as the M. P.'s (Military Police), and no one is allowed on the street after 9:30 P.M. You should see the number of German prisoners working around the docks here; they do all the stevedoring over here. Some of them look real pitiful, their ages ranging from eighteen to forty-five, and possibly older. They appear to be rather contented with their lot, as they are well fed

It isn't such a "pipe cinch" as it looks. They call themselves "a couple of old-timers from Long Island," Corporal H. G. Gibbs and Anker Larsen

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"The Top Sergeant and myself — Gordon Milne." Milne was formerly a repairman in the Northern Manhattan District

and cared for, but have to work very hard. They are treated well by the French. Four of them escaped night before last. I don't think they will get very far, as they are being looked for by so many people.

BLACK SNAKES AND DARE-DEVILS

The American Marines are certainly making a name for themselves over here. They are spoken of by the French, and also by the Germans, as the "dare-devils" and "black snakes."

I heard of an incident the other day which seemed very cruel, but on the other hand rather amusing. It seems the French and Germans were fighting on the opposite sides of a river, and it was decided by both armies that they would cease fighting in order that both sides might be able to take a bath, and while the bathing was going on, the American Marines came up and routed the Germans. The commander of the French unit came up afterwards and told the Marines that it was understood between the Germans and themselves that they were to stop fighting for a while to take a bath. The Marines replied that they did not come 3,500 miles to see the Germans bathe. That looks as if we mean real business, don't you think?

The War Game

HARD though they work, and grim though their task is, our boys still retain their sense of humor, and would not have us think for a moment that they take themselves too seriously. The war is a game, to be played with all their might, and to be won as soon as it is in them to win it.

That they are not afraid of work either, is evidenced by Joseph F. Donohue's letter, which declares:

> The eight-hour day was never heard of here, and the hours would make the unions weep. We rise and shine at 5 A. M. and start our daily toil at 6, winding up at 7 P. M. Our boys are working hard, and are not counting the minutes, doing it willingly for the great cause.

Private Donohue was once a member of the Plant Department, New Jersey, and is now with the 139th Aero Squadron, A. E. F.

Lakewood Subscriber:

"Information, I lost my bulldog in South Amboy this morning. The last time I saw him was at the garage located by the hole in the wall, as you come out of the town. I have worried all day. Can you suggest anything to help me?"

The Lakewood information operator supplied the subscriber with the number of the police station at South Amboy. Connection was made at once by order of subscriber and the police were notified to search for the dog.

C. E. CARR, *Chief Operator, Lakewood.*

Free Reading Courses

Offered by Bureau of Education

"I WISH I had more time to read," is a common plaint. Time flits by so quickly in this work-a-day world, that some of us find ourselves wishing that the days were twice as long as they are. Our hours of recreation are few, and yet how many of them we waste, some by doing nothing, others by patronizing the "movies" a little too often, and still others by reading books.

But is reading books a waste of time? Decidedly so, if we judge by the amount of "light literature" in circulation every day. Not that it is wrong to read light, cheerful, frivolous books, by any means! There are few of us who cannot enjoy them. The trouble is that we forget that there are two kinds of light literature, —good and not so good. Both of them we enjoy. From one we obtain enjoyment and profit.

The test of a book's value lies in the words, "What did I get out of that book? Am I repaid for the time I spent in reading it?" If the answer is negative, your time has been wasted. What we need is something to stimulate thought. A new idea, another light on an old subject, and we have something more precious than gold.

People fight shy of classics, thinking them dry and stiff, and condemn them to the Limbo of the Unread. But there are numbers of classics that can be enjoyed far more by the general public than the trashy novels that fill so many book-shelves to-day. They are full of adventure, romance, and color, and at the same time are stimulating and worth-while. Why not give them a chance and really enjoy yourself?

To those who say that one does not learn anything from some of the great works, Robert De Quincey says:

> What do you learn from *Paradise Lost?* Nothing at all. What do you learn from a cookery book? Something new, something you did not know before, in every paragraph. But would you, therefore, put the wretched cookery book on a higher level of estimation than the divine poem? What you owe to Milton is not any knowledge, of which a million separate items are still but a million of advancing steps on the same earthly level; what you owe is *power;* that is, exercise and expansion to your own latent capacity of sympathy with the infinite, where every pulse and each separate influx is a step upward,—a step ascending, as upon a Jacob's ladder, from earth to mysterious altitudes above the earth. All the steps of knowledge, from the first to the last, carry you farther on the same plane, but could never raise you one foot above your ancient level of earth; whereas the very first step in power is a flight, as an ascending into another element, where earth is forgotten.

For persons whose school opportunities are behind them, as well as for boys and girls in the school, the Home Education Division of the Bureau of Education offers an opportunity to read, under direction, the best books in a variety of subjects, and to receive a certificate signed by the Commissioner of Education, testifying to the completion of the prescribed reading.

Ten reading courses are now ready for free distribution as follows:

No. 1. Great Literary Bibles.
No. 2. Great Literature.
No. 3. Course for Parents.
No. 4. Miscellaneous Course for Boys.
No. 5. Miscellaneous Course for Girls.
No. 6. Thirty Books of Great Fiction.
No. 7. Thirty World Heroes.
No. 8. American Literature.
No. 9. Thirty American Heroes.
No. 10. American History.

Full directions and lists will be furnished, without charge, on application to the Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.

How Jersey Meets Emergencies

By W. J. Townley, Wire Chief, Summit

THE following shows the spirit of coöperation that exists in the New Jersey Division.

On July 25, at 2:50 P. M., a trolley feed wire came in contact with our aerial No. 607 Chatham, putting 138 lines, 291 stations, and 9 local trunks out of service; it also burnt out several subscriber instruments, central office line relays, and practically all substation fuses and carbons in the district.

There were ten distinct burns in three different aerial cables; some parts were melted for fifteen feet.

Repairmen, cable splicers, and galvanometer men were immediately dispatched to Chatham. At 6:30 P. M. we had 42 lines and 77 stations working O. K.; at 11 P. M., 99 lines and 204 stations had been restored; and on July 26, at 2 P. M., all lines and stations were again in service.

The traffic manager and chief operator gave valuable assistance.

The men were greatly encouraged by the praise they received from the officials of the various departments during the progress of the restoration, and the way they worked together regardless of time or personal engagements showed their eagerness to give the public the very best service possible. This *esprit de corps* has been developed by fair and liberal treatment from the Company and has resulted in an efficiency hard to excel.

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"They Come Up Smiling"

By "Hickey"

Somewhere in France,
June 18, 1918.

TO-DAY marks the anniversary of the first day spent in active service by the 407th Telegraph Battalion,—formerly the 2nd Telegraph Battalion Reserve.

None of the soldier boys of the old 2nd Telegraph Battalion Reserve will be forgetting soon the first roll-call on the cobblestones before the Jersey Central ferry docks on that hot and sweltering day, the 18th of June, 1917.

Some of the rookies were in full uniform and many only partly uniformed, while a few still wore their civilian clothes. What an uncomfortable feeling civilian shoes and stiff collars would have at the present time!

The trip started off finely until someone called out in loud and commanding tones: "Fall in! Attention! Right Dress! Come to attention and no talking in ranks!" and a few other commands which *spoiled the party*, and from then on, it's been a case of "You're in the army now," for many. Oh, yes, it seems that "someone is always taking the joy out of life," and but for the ability of certain members of the battalion to get up and *start things*, combined with the talent and the originality of many of the boys, the past year would have been a very blue and uninteresting one. However, don't take this as a reflection on any of the officers, commissioned or non-commissioned; we were simply unaccustomed to the discipline and environments brought about by the war. The boys put back the joy into life wherever they go.

Follow me, don't get ahead of me, and I'll try to tell you a part of our story—a story of how an "idea" put across became a battalion and how that battalion became "Kelly's Flying Squadron" (Company E) and "Napoleon's Little Telephone Army," (Company D).

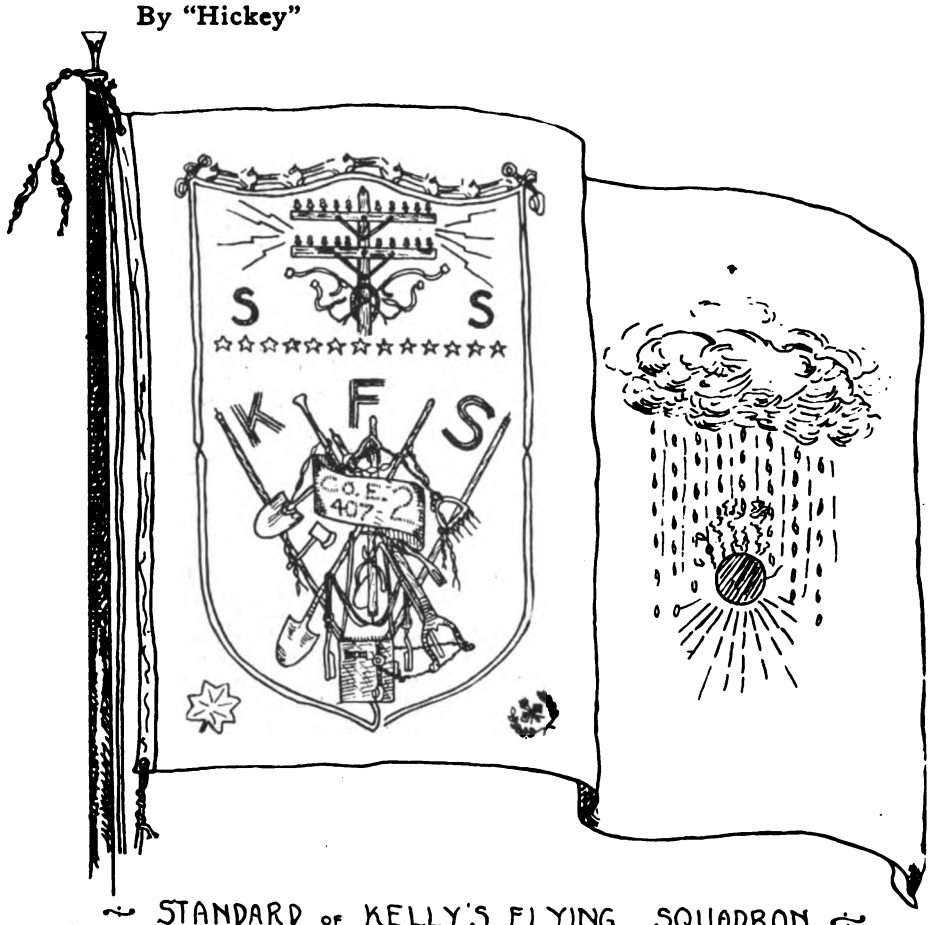
Scene—Monmouth Park, New Jersey, on June 18, 1917, at about 2:00 P. M.

What a sight for a bunch of new, hungry soldiers! Nothing but a few canvas tents pitched,—about enough for a quarter of a company,—boxes here and there, piles of straw, tall grass, bushes, and a few trees, among which to make a temporary home. The day wore on, but things had started to take form. Units were formed, more tents were pitched, and the Battalion installed itself in its first camp, in "the wilds of New Jersey." Plenty of work and fresh air was a change for many, and so it was more of a pleasure than an undesirable job to work those first few days, even under the broiling sun.

The "Joy" the Gang Put into Life

Soon the novelty wore off, however, and "Reveille" at 5:30 A. M. became a mighty unpopular event. "Up-setting" exercises (as they were dubbed by the "boys") before breakfast, and then the details began—and the "drilling"! Fifteen minute drill sessions all day long with intermissions of a few minutes every now and then and, as Murphy of Co. "E" used to express his most innermost feelings, "All we do is 'Fall-in' and 'Fall-out' all the day long."

But the "joy" which the gang put back into life was what I started to speak about. Who will ever forget the trips in the jitney-busses to Long Branch and Red Bank, or the impromptu entertainments "pulled off" in the Y. M. C. A. with Grimshaw of Co. E always one of the headliners? Who will ever forget the thrill of running that first "Rookie" guard when a date ended too late



STANDARD OF KELLY'S FLYING SQUADRON

COLORS — CLOUDY ON WET GROUND

From Joseph W. Wilson, 407th Tel. B'n, A. E. F.

or the evenings on the ocean beach, in swimming, as often the case, terminated nearer 2:00 A. M. than 9:00 P. M.? And, last of all, who will ever forget the War-Dance on the night of August 6, when all was packed up and everyone ready to start the following morning,—that night to be more exact? It was *some* celebration that marked that last night's sleep on American terra firma. Late into the night the figures resembling Hawaiian Indians with "beaucoup" straw around their waists (and not much else), danced about the bonfire and played their pranks in wild gesture.

At 2:30 A. M., August 7, it was dark, very dark, and hot and damp. Nevertheless the 2nd Telegraph Battalion Reserve, composed of men from the New York Telephone Company, marched out of Monmouth Park,—(now known as Camp Vail), —and along the road to the Little Silver station—full-pack and with barrack bags. They boarded the waiting train with the men of the 1st Telegraph Battalion of Pennsylvania, and started on their way to "Somewhere in France." Silently marched the men through the station at the end of the railroad line, and on the waiting ferry. Each boat and ferry, tug and steamer, on the Old Hudson, gave the salute of three blasts as we passed them on our way to the dock where the transport lay waiting for us.

Very little joy was left in life this first day of waiting about on the decks for the boat to pull out. We passed the Battery late in the afternoon and pulled out of the bay that evening, watching the lights of Coney Island and Long Island fade away into the dusky distance at 9:00 P. M.

On Board the Antilles

Then the "joy" started to come around again, save for a few who had not the power to shake off the lonesomeness of the ocean and distance from home. Many were the evenings passed in song, joke, and game enjoyed by all. The Food! The quarters for the men! And the bunks! Don't ask me to describe them; when the boys get back they'll do all the describing that will be necessary. Ask them about the old tub *Antilles*. They'll all tell you the same story and they'll add that they were mighty glad that they didn't have to go back on her, too.

Nine days on the open sea and the wind began to blow, and the ship began to roll, and we began to toss, and plunge, and some got rather homesick for the sight of land and cared little whether "school kept or not."

Twelve days out and the guns began to pop, and the boats began to zig-zag. As the Frenchmen say, they seemed as though they were "beaucoup Zig-Zag," first in one direction and then in another. We did not get hit or sink, or capture any "Subs."

Thirteen days out and the guns sure did pop. They commenced it at about 9:45 in the morning and went at it for about two long hours. The French airplanes came out and dropped depth bombs and flew all around us as we zig-zagged some more.

I suppose you imagine that the Telephone boys were looking on and wondering just when the bump and the splash would come

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off, et cetera. Far be it for such actions from the boys of "Kelly's Flying Squadron," or "Napoleon's Little Telephone Army." Of course, there were a few, one or two, looking sad and lonesome like, but the rest were up in the bow of the boat, looking for submarines and singing at the top of their lungs—singing everything from "And when I die, don't bury me at all" to "Good-bye Broadway, Hello France." One officer called out to the men, "Cut out that singing, don't you know that this is serious?" But no submarines came to the surface and so the singing went right on. The boys had to be shown first and then I dare say that they would have taken a pop-shot at one with their automatics if they had seen one and been given half a chance. I never saw such a bunch in all my life. They'll try anything at all, once, and they generally come out on top, too.

When the guns stopped their popping and things were quiet once more, land was approached near enough to distinguish houses, lighthouses, trees, and many, many rocks. Then we skirted the shore and pulled into the harbor of the port at about 3:30 P. M. The next day the ship was left to itself and we took to the land and the *dust!* And the *heat!* And from that day on we had more than our share of "Sunny France."

Always With a Song, Always With a Smile

After a week at the seaport we were shipped eastward some 400 miles, to the land of the Duke of Burgoyne and the Burgundy Wines. We built our second camp, as shown in many of the pictures printed in The Telephone Review of the past eight months. In November we discarded the tents and have been billeted ever since and generally with various species of company.

The rainy season came, with its mud and pools, followed by snow and ice,—enough to finish the humor of any man. It only served as a hard lesson and good training for the coming months.

There were draughty cold billets and standing "Reveille" so early in the morning that it was as dark as night, if it could not be called night itself. But always with a song, always,—nearly always,—with a smile, the boys went on their way to and from work. When it's too cold, you can't smile, you know, very well. But the dark, cold days passed and finally spring came as though a reward for perseverance.

The boys of the two companies have gotten up dances, entertainments, and minstrel shows all the time they have been over here to pass the spare moments. The last Minstrel Show, given in the Y. M. C. A. hut at headquarters, G. H. Q., was a knockout, and the officers of that city asked that the boys come back again and put the show on again.

The new year opened with records in work all along the line. One commendation from General Russell particularly pleased all concerned. The Christmas packages from the friends of ours back there in the New York Telephone Company arrived, also the flags and magazines, and you who have helped to make our life over here more pleasant, rest assured that each and every one of these gifts are fully appreciated. You are remembered often by the soldiers of the 2nd Telegraph Battalion Reserve, as we were first known to you, and as we like best to be remembered.

July 8, 1918.

To-day finds us in a town some sixty miles north of our first camping ground in France—a town which I have been told is a marked town by the Boches—a town which marks the spot of a disastrous defeat to the Hun many years ago. Cutlery, razors, and medical instruments are made in large quantities in this town for France.

New York Trims Brooklyn in France

Each Company has a fine baseball team, having lost but very few games to outside teams. Company E, "Kelly's Flying Squadron" has beaten the 7th Engineers twice, the 26th Engineers a couple of times, the 322nd Ambulance Company, the team from Company D, and has lost but two games all told. The game between the two companies was by far the most hotly contested game of them all. The New York team trimmed the Brooklyn team by a score of 5-3.

Here are the line-ups:

Company E		*Company D*	
Frank Ruggerio	*ss*	E. Sullivan	*cf*
T. Jackson	*3b*	W. Finch	*2b*
P. Kaiser	*2b*	F. Rhodes	*ss*
J. Feeley	*c*	B. K. Rhoads	*1b*
A. G. O. Anderson	*lf*	D. Kavanaugh	*3b*
J. Bruley	*1b*	M. Toomey	*lf*
F. Allen	*cf*	W. Oates	*rf*
W. Tobin	*rf*	W. Grace	*lf*
H. J. H. Anderson	*p*	T. Dowling	*p*

Major E. E. Kelly umpired the game with undisputed decisions.

After supper on the evening of June 18 the Battalion was called together in formation and both Major Kelly and Major Shearer addressed the Battalion, giving the boys much encouragement and confidence in their coming work. They intend to lead in the building of lines all over France as they have done for nearly a year so far.

A year ago yesterday made eleven months for us since we last saw the shores of old Long Island fade away into the distance and darkness. Yes! "Kelly's Flying Squadron" is showing the Army and the world what kind of stuff was sent over by the New York Telephone Company last year in the second convoy of troops.

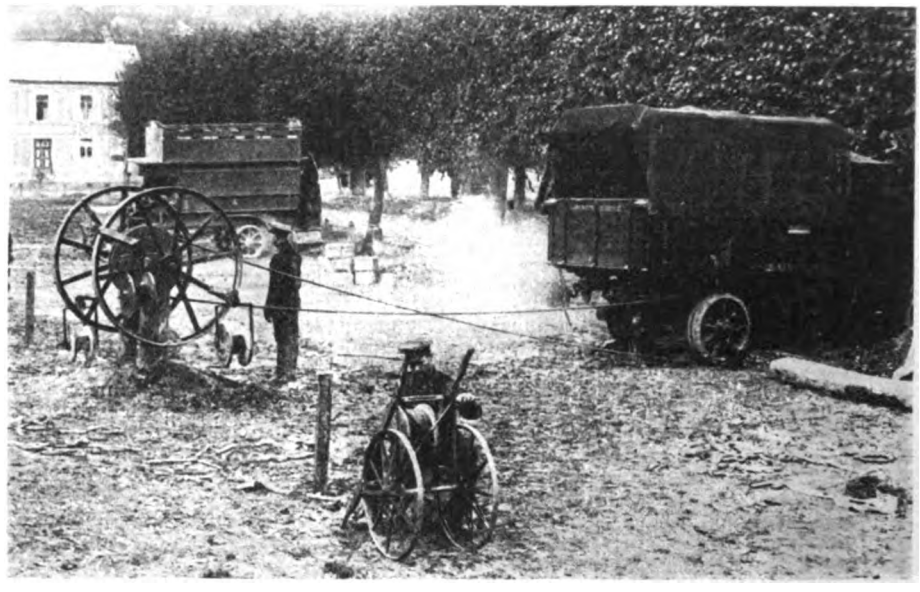
Tell the bunch that the boys are only waiting in their trip to Berlin, so that the rest of them can get in on it and clean things up so that the Boche will be obliterated from off the face of the globe and the world will be cleansed of the blasphemous Hun forever.

The old 2nd Telegraph Battalion Reserve is like the rest; they've tried to freeze them out, rain them out, snow them out, smother them first in dust and then in mud, and in one instance to burn them out by burning down the billet, and yet! They come up SMILING.

You've got to keep the joy in life to talk cheering. You say, "over there." "The voice with the smile wins." Watch us.

If any of this is good enough to repeat and anyone wants to know who gave you the information, tell them it was written by

"Hicky."



An ingenious method of twisting telephone wires into cables at the front, rigged up by the Canadians

Twisting Telephone Wires at the Front

NECESSITY has once more demonstrated her right to the title "The Mother of Invention." When a man has no tools at hand, he must, like the Swiss Family Robinson, make them, utilizing simple things that come to hand.

So it is at the front in France. Needs arise daily, and are filled. If a man lacks a certain tool, he substitutes another, modifying it to suit his purpose.

An interesting case in point is a scheme worked out by the Canadians for twisting telephone wires at the front. Motive power is furnished by a rear wheel of a motor truck for the turning of the wheel device, as illustrated in the center of the accompanying photograph. This, in turn, sets the two spools suspended from each large wheel to revolving. These spools are so arranged that their revolutions twist up the single strands into a two-ply cable, which, passing through an opening in the post, is then rolled up on the reel truck to either side.

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Telephone Service at Washington

EVERYONE in Washington is working at top speed, for nothing else will meet the situation there at present. Day and night the telephone men are "on the job," ready and willing to be called to tide over any emergency or need. Service is the watchword.

F. L. Jackson, who arrived in Washington on May 31, to take upon his shoulders some of the multifold duties that were Mr. Rablen's, has at last managed to write a line describing the telephone work at Washington, by dint of stealing an hour or two from a Sunday afternoon.

DEAR MR. KEELER:

Before leaving Brooklyn I promised to let you know something about my work here in Washington. I trust that you have not thought I had forgotten and that you will believe me when I say that personal letter writing is somewhat of a treat; in fact, if we get time to read a newspaper we are all puffed-up over it. But to-day I am going to line up with our E. N. Y. friends and observe the Sabbath by taking it easy this afternoon, and if this machine lives through the pounding it is going to receive, this letter will be written.

My arrival in Washington on May 31 had no effect whatever on the busy life of our Capital city. There were no brass bands or congressional delegates to meet me at the station, but old Sol gave me a warm reception, and it has been hot ever since. But thanks to Palm Beach clothes and canvas shoes, I think that I shall be able to survive.

At your suggestion I called Mr. Rablen from the station. The company had made reservations for me at the Dewey Hotel. After cleaning off a bit of the railroad's right-of-way from my person, I presented myself to the office at 4:30 and Mr. Rablen gave me a personally conducted tour through Main, Franklin, and Information. After that to supper, back to the office at 6 P. M., and on the job until 11 P. M. I have been on the job ever since.

During the next few days I got into the swing of things down here and on the following Friday Mr. Rablen left for a five-dap trip to Buffalo, the first vacation since he has been here, and left me in charge of this district. Believe me I camped right on the job until he returned.

My hours are officially 9:30 A. M. to 1 P. M. and 5:30 to 11 P. M. As none of us work schedule time, I reach the office about 9 A. M., go home for lunch at 1 o'clock, return at two, three, or four, and stay until 11 P. M. These hours will change to regular day hours when we open up our new central desk.

About my work I can say very little, as I am doing almost everything in the traffic line except desk work. However, I do handle about two or three verbal complaints a day. During the morning I am with Mr. Rablen at whatever is on for the day, in the afternoon the same, or special work. From 5:30 to 11 P. M. I give Main, Franklin, and Information a general supervision. If it is necessary for any of the offices in the city to get a manager for anything, I am always available at one of the central offices in this district or at my desk, where I manage to get rid of whatever is left over from the day.

Centralization

DURING the next two weeks we expect to centralize the Central desks, of which there are two, and I shall probably have a little more time for district office work during the day.

The Central desk for this district is in Main and is covered by a manager and a supervisor from 8 A. M. until 5:30,—after that by the Chief Operator. On the new desk we shall have the man here, the man on the desk in the North district, and two more men who are breaking in.

Washington and the District of Columbia are served by Main, Franklin, North, West, Cleveland, Lincoln, and Columbia. The last five offices are in the North district; they are small offices and cover residential territories.

The offices that I have to do with are Main, Franklin, and Information. They are all located at the 722 Twelfth Street, N. W. building.

Main, the Most Important Telephone Exchange in the World

MAIN is located on the sixth floor. The equipment consists of a line of 86 A-positions of No. 1 C. B. switchboard; a line of 29 B-positions, and a single line of 9 official board positions; one 2-position manager's desk, and a 2-position chief operator's desk. There are no party lines or coin-box lines in this office. The last peg-count shows 6,436 lines and 31,730 stations. This is considered a very heavy P. B. X. development, especially in the different government departments.

On the same floor Long Distance has 54 positions of switchboard in two lines. Main is considered the most important telephone exchange in the world, as it serves the Capitol, the White House, all the Government departments, the foreign missions, legations and embassies, newspapers, theaters, stores, office buildings, et cetera.

Franklin, the "war baby," is quite a robust central office and second in importance to Main. The equipment comprises a line of 53 A-positions No. 1 C. B.; a line of 24 A-positions on which terminate coin-box and attended station lines; a line of 17 B-positions; and a line of 9-switching positions known as the interdepartmental board. This board is used for switching calls from one government department to another. For example, if the P. B. operator at the State Department wants the War Department, the connection is made through this board. About 6,300 calls a day are handled at this board, a day being about seven hours.

On the last peg-count Franklin had 5,704 lines and 9,012 stations. Franklin is located on the 5th floor, and the traffic office for this district is also on this floor.

Information, which is on the third floor, is at present furnishing service from a standard double-sided information desk of 28 positions. Information will be moved to rented quarters about two blocks away some time this month to make room on the third floor for more "A" boards for Franklin. When our new building on Thirteenth Street, adjoining this building, is finished, Information will be moved back again.

On the third floor 54 Long-Distance positions are working.

Verbal and written complaints are very light considering what the conditions have been. I was very much impressed with the way subscribers complain. They either apologize before or after complaining, or their tone is apologetic. The service is very good and the spirit of coöperation and willingness of the local and out-of-town operators is remarkable.

"Master Busy Test"

There is a special feature known as the "Master Busy Test" used in Main on the lines to the War Department P. B. X. This department receives service over 108 lines which are stretched over three blocks of multiple, 2,469 to 2,490, 2,540 to 2,599 (omitting 2,550-50), and 2,660 to 2,699 (omitting 2,670-79).

In the first jack of each group of ten, for example, 2,470, 2,460, 2,480, a brass signal plug has been placed, the busy test of the 9 jacks in that group are wired to the jack containing the signal plug. On receipt of a call for the War Department the operator taps the signal plug. If she receives a busy test, she knows that all the lines in that group are busy and tests the next plug. If no busy test is received, the operator knows that some lines in that group are not busy and tests for an available line. By this arrangement an operator would find it necessary to test 12 times to report busy on all (108) lines. You can see the amount of time it saves. This arrangement may work out on your Navy Yard lines.

I am sorry that I cannot tell you something about Washington. I have seen very little of the public buildings as yet. Twice I walked around the White House grounds, visited the Capitol once, recently, and dropped in the Senate and the House to hear something on the government ownership of telephones proposition, but was disappointed. I can see the Washington Monument from my desk window. This is the extent of my sightseeing.

I moved from the Dewey about two weeks ago to a small family hotel nearby. It is about ten minutes' walk to the office, and I find the rooms and meals very good considering that profiteering is the popular indoor sport here. However, we are quite comfortable, and as the Company is installing a discounted service telephone in my room I suppose I am liable for emergencies and it would be best to be near the office, at least until my hours change.

Personally, I am having a very interesting time and I can also say a pleasant time. I am enjoying the work very much and the people here, local and out-of-town, are good fellows,—regular telephone men, of course.

Sincerely yours,

F. L. JACKSON.

Unhyphenated? Not Always

When asked to cut the hyphen out,
We say it will not do
To drop it, when we 'phone "Oh, Hell-O, who are you?"

—F. G.

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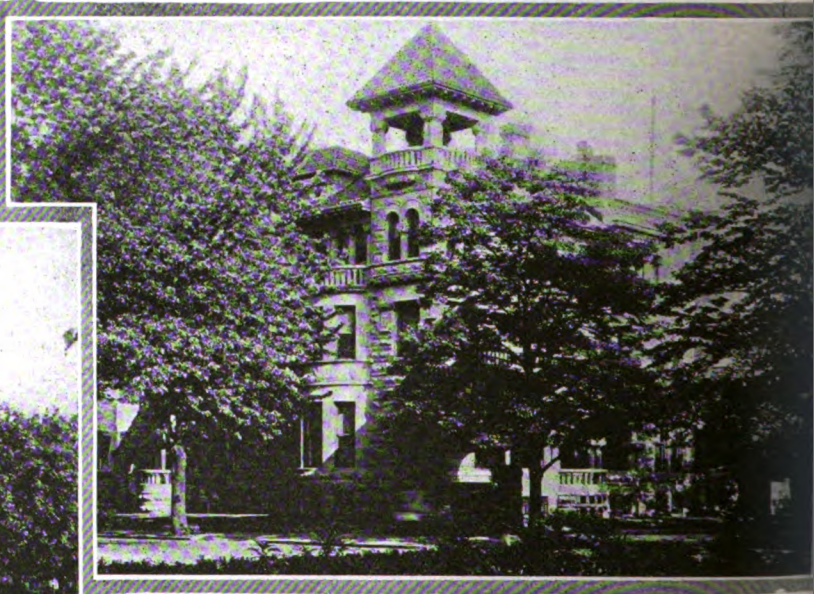
Eighty operators are accommodated in this handsome residence and one adjoining, corner of Vermont Avenue and L Street

On the porch at the Belcourt. A chaperone in each residence looks out for the comfort and happiness of her girls

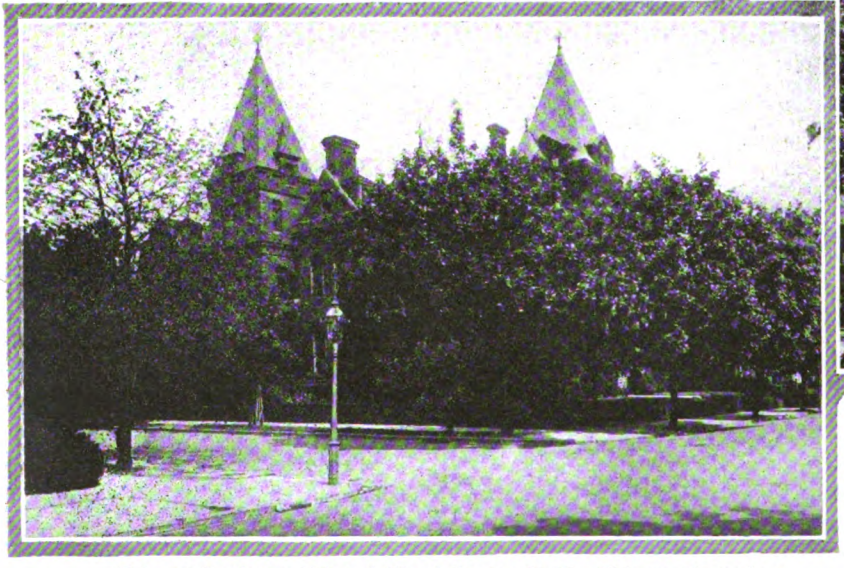
A peep in th

The porch at Washington College, and the Conservatory at the Bristol S relaxation and enjoyment w

Entrance Hall at the Colonial. Starting point for many a sight-seeing trip



Colonial School, 18th and Q Streets, N. W. Previous to its occupancy as a school for young ladies it was the official residence of the Chinese ambassador and his suite



Belcourt Seminary, 13th and Girard Streets, N. W. This was formerly a private mansion, converted into a school for girls, with tennis courts adjoining. The dining room is arranged with an interior court, from which the building takes its name

Our Telephone Gi

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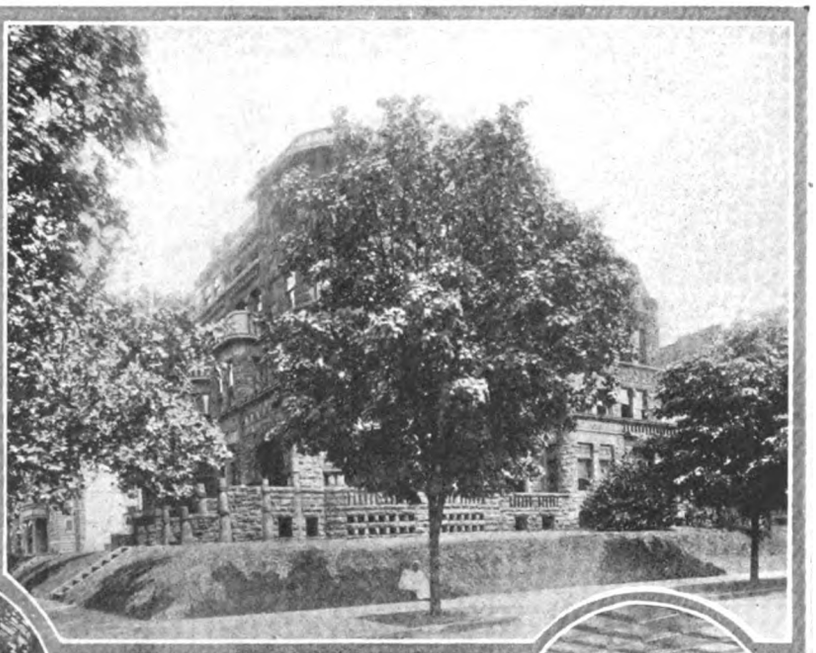
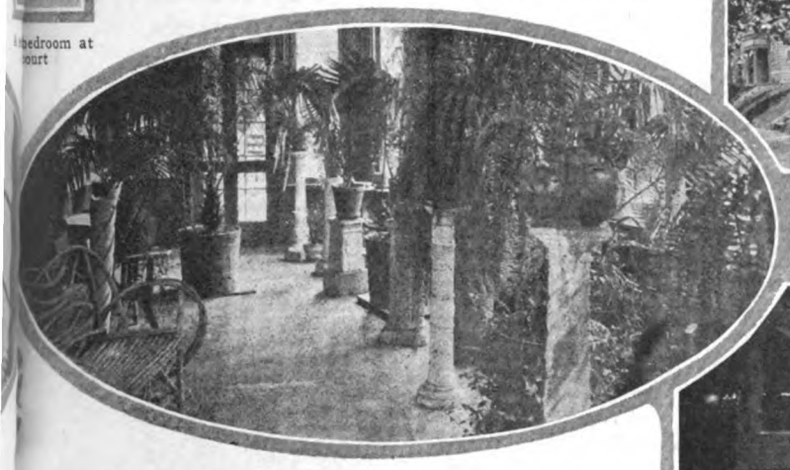
Piazza at the Bristol. Housekeepers and a full staff of attendants provide for every need of the operators away from home



Fairmont Academy, 2701 14th Street, N. W., one of five fashionable young ladies' schools, where telephone operators have been living temporarily



Entertainments and other pleasures and diversions afford

work is done.

Cozy fireplace at the Belcourt. An attractive rendezvous for chatting and games

Dining room at Washington College. The catering department provides the best of food and plenty of it

Washington College, 4th and T Streets, N. E. Once a famous Manor House, where Lafayette stopped as a guest of the nation, in 1834. It is surrounded by a beautiful 10-acre park

in Washington

Bristol School, 19th Street and Mintwood Place. Before the war this was one of the oldest and best known of the many girls' schools in Washington. The grounds and buildings overlook beautiful Rock Creek Park, a Government reservation many acres in extent

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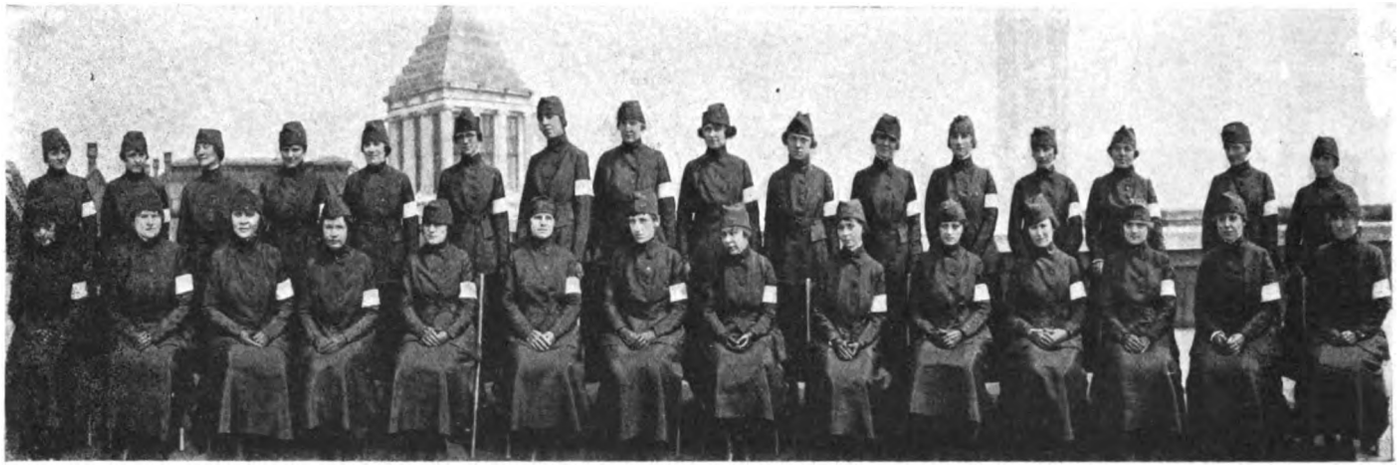

FIFTH UNIT OF TELEPHONE OPERATORS FOR GENERAL PERSHING'S ARMY, FROM THE FORCES OF THE BELL SYSTEM

Left to Right. Front Row: (1) Miss Mildred Lewis, 3 years, Southern N. E. Tel. Co.; (2) Mrs. Zada F. Black, 8 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.; (3) Miss Anita Chance, 13 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.; (4) Miss Louise Barbour, 6 years, A. T. & T. Co., Long Lines Dept.; (5) Miss Anna Kinney, 6 years, Iowa Tel. Co.; (6) Miss Nell S. Wilkins, 10 years, Nebraska Tel. Co.; (7) Miss Helen Cook, 6 years, A. T. & T. Co., Long Lines Dept.; (8) Miss Norma G. Finch, 7 years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (9) Miss Elizabeth M. Shovar, 6 years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (10) Miss Sarah Fairbrother, 2 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (11) Miss Annie F. Sheerin, 10 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (12) Miss Ruth Keeping, 3 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (13) Miss Helen M. Hayes, 14 years, A. T. & T. Co., Long Lines Dept.; (14) Miss Christie V. Bickford, 7 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.

Back Row: (1) Miss Elizabeth Macauley, 3 years, A. T. & T. Co., Long Lines Dept.; (2) Miss Agnes E. Blazina, 2 years, A. T. & T. Co., Long Lines Dept.; (3) Miss Ena Robb, 2 years, N. Y. Tel. Co.; (4) Miss Louise M. Wilcox, 6 years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (5) Miss Faye R. Honey, 9 years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (6) Miss Martha M. Henshaw, 2 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (7) Miss Merle Egan, 11 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.; (8) Miss Laura Gridley, 7 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (9) Miss Helen Carey, 7 years, Chicago Tel. Co.; (10) Miss Vera Sjostrom, 2 years, Chicago Tel. Co.; (11) Miss Jessie D. Brown, 7 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (12) Miss Grace B. Knall, 7 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (13) Miss Elizabeth O'Brien, 3 years, A. T. & T. Co., Long Lines Dept.; (14) Miss Mary E. Sealey, 15 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (15) Miss Irene A. Gifford, 8 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (16) Miss Marguerite Mahoney, 12 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.

Photographed on Roof of 195 Broadway, New York, August 2, 1918

Fifth Unit of Telephone Operators Arrives in France

Composed of Experienced Long Distance Operators from the Bell System

THE fifth unit of American telephone operators for General Pershing's army in France sailed from an American seaport early in August, and its members are now bravely at work helping in the grand cause of defeating the Huns in the land where they have no right to be, and driving them back to where they belong.

A German prisoner who was captured at Xivray complained: "We couldn't take the village because the Americans were where they had no business to be. They came right out through the barrage, and it wasn't right." They will probably say that these girls are "where they have no business to be," and that "they came right out through the U-boats, and it wasn't right!"

But there they are in France, and still others are to follow soon, to operate the lines our boys have built.

We are fortunate in having obtained permission to publish the first pictures that have been released by the Committee on Public Information showing a group of telephone girls trained by the Bell System actually at work in France, and some pole lines in France constructed by our men in the Signal Corps.

This last unit of operators, unlike the former ones, is composed of experienced long distance operators exclusively. The request was sent to the Bell System to supply a small group of operators having had two years' or more experience in long distance particular party operating. When this became known, more than two hundred and fifty applications were sent in from operators who were anxious to go and do their bit "over there." It is no less important, however, that efficient telephone service shall continue to be maintained in this country, and no one knows better than the girls themselves that the work of local and long distance operating in this country is absolutely necessary and just as patriotic a duty as overseas service.

Girls were accepted from different company organizations, therefore, so as not to cripple any one of them. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company Long Lines Department supplied six; the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, seven; the Michigan State Telephone Company, four; the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, four; the Mountain State Telephone and Telegraph Company, three; the Chicago Telephone Company, two; the Iowa Telephone Company, one; the Nebraska Telephone Company, one; the Southern New England Telephone Company, one; and the New York Telephone Company, one. No appointments were made of chief operators, as was done in previous units, since there are now so many operators in France that promotions will be made over there.

The group was organized with Miss Helen Cook as supervisor, and Miss Louise Barbour, Miss Jessie D. Brown, and Miss Irene A. Gifford, as operators-in-charge, and en route it was under the command of Lieutenant Eugene D. Hill, of the Signal Corps, formerly of the traffic department of the Cumberland Telephone and Telegraph Company in Kentucky.

Telephone Operators in France All Enthusiastic About Their Work and Uncle Sam

WAR! War! War! The cry meets our ears and our eyes at every move we make. Unless we are either directly or indirectly connected with some branch of war work, whether it be an essential industry or military service, we feel that we are failing in our duty. "Win the war we must, and win the war we will," is the determination of every loyal American, and the telephone operator has come into her own, for with her lies one of the greatest oppor-

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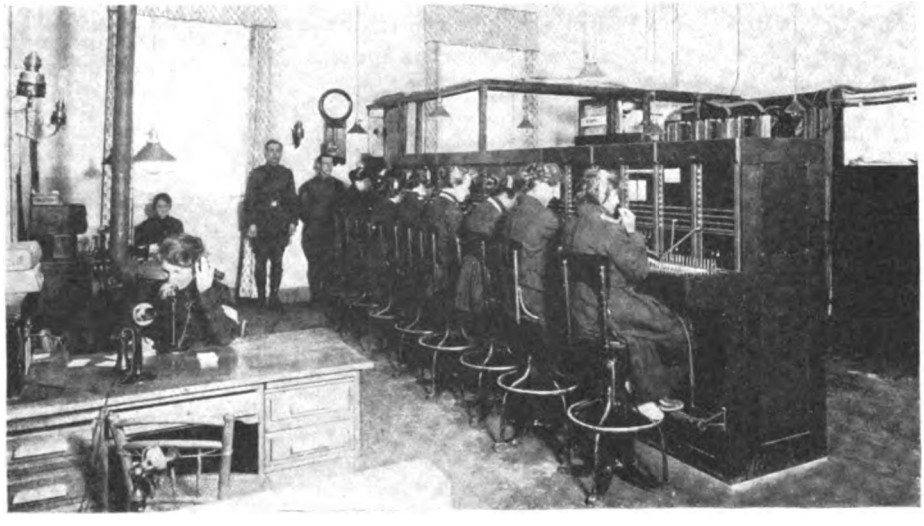
ties that is afforded to women in crisis.

She is not a raw recruit, for years training have made her hands nimble and her brain quick. She can do her one great task better than anyone else, and the Government has asked her to give of her best. Has she given it? Who can doubt? In America every operator is doing her utmost to give good service, for she knows that great things are at stake. Abroad, she has won the commendation of all, making the experiment of substituting women for men at the war switchboards in France a success, releasing men for active service at the front.

The tenor of the letters from the girls to their parents and friends is an index of the splendid spirit of service that inspires them. Like our men, they put self into the background, and forget that they are anything except workers for Uncle Sam, filled with enthusiasm, and fired with determination to meet and overcome all obstacles. Side by side they are working, all one in spirit, though in different countries, with Victory as the goal.



PROUD TO BE IN THE SERVICE

American telephone operators near the front in France

Approved by Committee on Public Information

OPERATING A SWITCHBOARD IN PARIS DESCRIBED BY MISS LAURENCE PECHIN, OF SAN FRANCISCO, A MEMBER OF THE SECOND UNIT

How quaint and old this seaport town was! [Referring to the port where they disembarked in France.] It seemed like a painted city upon a painted canvas. Our sojourn there was brief but most enjoyable. From there we journeyed to the delightful town of Tours in the heart of the Château country. It is as much like the rolling California country as two things can be alike! How peaceful and fruitful the French landscape seemed! It made one feel that a land so rich was perfectly capable of winning this great struggle. All of us were quite charmed with what we saw of France. We had seen none of her misery as yet.

Finally, the day of separation came and we were all sent to different French posts. With Mrs. Crittenden, I was fortunate enough to be sent to Paris. Of course we nearly all were hoping to be there, but then others needed us as much as the great Capital.

AMERICAN SPIRIT

Our life here has been a busy one. The office we went to at first was only temporary, and we then moved to our present one. You may have wonderful ones in the U. S., but I am sure none as *pretty* as ours. It is located in one of the ex-fashionable French hotels and still retains an atmosphere of its former glory. The switchboard is a little jewel and has won us all by its beauty! The girls are always early at their work and their greatest pleasure in life is to give connections accurately and quickly. Of course, a very able chief operator,—Mrs. Crittenden,—assisted by conscientious supervisors, such as Miss Messelin and Miss Carrel, give an example that we little "privates" cannot help but emulate. No one cares about an eight-hour day,—time is nothing to us here. Of course, we usually have only eight hours, but during our "cutover," from the Chief Operator down, we worked as much as twelve hours and thought it good fun! That's the American woman's spirit when in Uncle Sam's uniform!

Now, do not think we never play. After dinner we sometimes go to the Opera or the *Comèdie Français* or, again, to a "Cinema," as they call them here. On Sundays, or days off, we visit all the places of interest we can. We have been to some of the world-famous Churches — La Madeline Sacrè Coeur and Notre Dame, also to Versailles and Sevres. Our next trip will be to St. Cloud by boat, and we are like school-girls in our expectation.

TO THE END!

Sometimes, too, we hear the cannon's roar, for the dear enemy likes to bombard us,—with Big Bertha,—by day, and give us air-raids by night. Neither of these does any good in the war game. They succeed sometimes in killing women and children or old men, but that is all. We object to the night attacks because they disturb our slumbers. The only reason they do this is to weaken our morale! The French and Americans are too much alike for that, and become determined to see the thing through to the end! As our French friends say, "On les aura," and so we will. Our men are wonders, filling in the breaches everywhere, and preferring death to retreat! We feel sad when we see the ambulances filled with wounded, but also we are mighty proud of "our boys." Every one is just fine, and I only wish you all could hear the stories we hear. A French woman told with tears in her eyes of how the "Cher Amèricains" had filled the ambulances and autos with women and children in order to save them from the hands of the Germans in an invaded city! Isn't that enough to make you proud of the boys? Well, I guess I have written enough for once, and will close with the best wishes of us all "over here" to you all "over there."

First Impressions

A LETTER published in *The Pacific Telephone Magazine,* written by Miss Adele Hoppock, one of the operators from the Pacific Coast now serving in France, gives a delightful account of her arrival in France and her experiences there.

We were so glad to arrive in France at last. Three of us were taken out for an auto ride all over the city. There was an American encampment near, and it was fine to see our soldiers again. We also visited the telephone office and saw the oldest switchboard in France. My fingers just itched to get hold of the plugs, but, of course, they wouldn't allow us to do anything like that. . . .

A REMARKABLE SYSTEM

The system here is very interesting, and I can tell you a little about it. Every important place, where headquarters and large camps are located, has a switchboard operated by our girls. This arrangement allows the officers to be connected with any one in their own camp, and also with other camps and cities all over France. The lines connect up with the French lines, and we have to deal with the French operators as well as our own. Many of the calls are long distance. The system, I think, is remarkable, and it will be a great pleasure to work. There are from three to about thirty girls in each place, according to the amount of business.

Our unit of twenty-seven girls was to be separated and we were to be mixed with those of the first two units. Of course, we were terribly anxious to find out where they were going to place us, and most of us had some definite idea where we wanted to go. When we arrived at the last city we were told our assignments. I was so afraid they would locate me in some place in the western part of France, far away from the front. I would have been happy there, but I much preferred to be as near the lines as possible. When they read the list of names, you may imagine my delight to find four other girls and myself stationed in the nearest place to the front that our girls are located. It is not in the danger zone, of course, but is not nearly so far away as it might be. There are no girls there now, and the board is being run by soldiers. Some of the other girls who have been here for a while are very anxious to go there, and they say it is the most interesting place of all, because it is near the front. Captain Vivian says he pities us because it will be hard work, and the switchboard is very antique. As there are no

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girls there yet, we will have to be pioneers and build up our own operating methods. We will have some girl who is thoroughly experienced to be chief operator over us. . . .

This has the reputation of being the best place in France for our girls. It is very different from what I imagined would be our life in France. I had visions of a dug-out, and, instead—a palace. Everything is perfectly grand here. . . .

If I stayed here, I am afraid I would have too good a time. I didn't enlist to be treated like a queen. I expected to rough it and be really in things. I hope that my life in the future will be more of that nature. Of course, we will have good times where we are going, but I never want to forget the fact that I am here to work hard. . . .

The government is wonderful. There is not a girl among us who would not give anything she could to the United States. It must come first in everything. We are so proud to be in the service and we feel as though it is our privilege, not our duty, to do our utmost. . . .

This morning I was put on the switchboard here for an hour's practice. It is fascinating work, and I am so anxious to get started.

MISS GRACE D. BANKER, OF NEW YORK, CHIEF OPERATOR, REALIZES THAT SOME OF US ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF US

What do you think? I am the proud possessor of a Boche helmet. Of course, if I could have had a hand in the owner's capture I would be prouder. It was given to me by an Australian Captain who had carried it around ever since "Vimy Ridge." Do you know, I sometimes think that the many lands and peoples of the world will not seem half as far removed from one another after this war. Constant contact with the soldiers of the Allies and their colonies makes one realize that, after all, there isn't such a great difference between us all.

The work at the office keeps us pretty busy these days. Our toll work is continually growing. In fact, it has very nearly doubled in size since we first came here, almost three months ago. You can't imagine how interesting it all is. Sometimes it is quite a strenuous "game" for, besides the office responsibilities, there are those of the home life, but I never tire of them and I am absolutely happy in my work.

I read the other day that German submarines had appeared off the Jersey coast. That brings the war closer home. You probably know much more about the war itself than we who are over here. There was something else that I read which interested me. The girls and soldiers who are not in our section may write where they are located and even send post-cards. If that is true, you all ought to receive some really interesting letters. However, even that inducement wouldn't make me want to change places at all.

A Little Fun, Too

MISS FRESNEL has become a real soldier, for she says, "What is the earthly use in worrying about anything whatsoever?" They say that until you can feel that way, you are only a rookie. Then you can begin to enjoy yourself and take things as they come.

General Headquarters was honored one night by a visit from Elsie Janis, about which Miss Fresnel writes:

Last night Elsie Janis was here and sang and danced for the benefit of those stationed at G. H. Q. Yesterday afternoon she was at the hospital, and last evening she performed for the "well people."

It was absolutely delightful. If you knew how envious we girls felt when we saw her in the dearest blue felt hat, and sweater, and the darlingest satin slippers!

Louise and I came late to the show, for you see we had decided not to go. We didn't like to walk way over there and back, so we let the other girls go without us. But after a while some boys came in a "box car" and asked if we wouldn't drive over. In we climbed, and off we went to the show.

THE DAY AFTER THE FOURTH

DARLINGS:

Well, what kind of a fourth did you spend? That was what I was thinking of most of the day. I suppose it was gorgeous hot weather and you all lolled about to your heart's content.

I worked, but I had from 12 to 3:30 off and left the office at 5, so that wasn't so bad.

The French authorities had festivities all day long in honor of the Americans and at 2 o'clock had some kind of an affair in the square of the Hotel de Ville. They had a French band and an American, and between the two we enjoyed it all very much.

Our General and his aide came up in cars and there were some French Generals. They and the Mayor and a lot of other "fonctionnaires" had a grand pow-wow on the steps of the Hotel de Ville, while the bands were playing and the people were looking on. It was quite a sight.

There were people everywhere,—on the roofs, in every single window and balcony, and a huge mob in the square among whom was your daughter and Suzanne, accompanied by a Lieutenant Robert W. Notte, who, by the way, is going back to the States very soon. He came over on the steamer with us, and has happened around here once in a while. He's been just as nice as can be and has taken awfully good care of us, given us advice, et cetera. When he found out he was going to the States for a short while, he rushed over here to get your address and telephone number so that he could look you up and tell you how well I am. . . .

You have no idea how proud I am of being able to be over here, when I think of how little I knew about people, or work of any kind, I'm surprised that I am here. It's late,—so goodbye. My work before all!

A VISIT FROM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

First of all, wonder of wonders, our commander in chief came to pay us an informal visit last Saturday evening at 7:30! He stayed from twenty to twenty-five minutes and during most of that time I was pinching myself to see whether I was really awake or not.

Darlings, he is the most wonderful man in every respect. He wasn't a bit distant or formal, but shook hands with all of us, and asked us individually what part of the States we came from, how we liked it, et cetera.

He went all over the house, into every room, accompanied by his staff, of course, and it was a veritable procession, for we girls escorted them through.

When they left, we all rushed to the windows. Then, all at once, everybody began to talk and all through dinner and way into the evening our house was truly as the tower of Babel must have been.

We are most fortunate in our officers, who are men in every sense of the word, and they have their eyes open, I believe, and they do see to it that everything necessary is done.

I would certainly hate to leave this place except for another one further front.

It's 9:25 now, and I must go inside, as punctuality in the army is everything.

Good Old Uncle Sam!

THE girls in France are interspersing their hard work with play, and when they have an opportunity, they go exploring, a-foot or on bicycles. As Miss Suzanne Prevot, one of the operators trained by the New York Telephone Company, tells us, they find France very much like the tales of it in old story books, with its old châteaux that boast of centuries. But our girls have not lost their love for our "little old U. S. A.," for Miss Prevot's statement is typical: "I can't tell you how much I admire and love the U. S. It knows how to take care of its girls;—I think the men think so, too." Miss Prevot's letters are quoted in part:

A SURPRISE

DEAREST:

At last the weather man is ashamed of his past conduct and is giving us perfect weather and we are profiting. Esther and I go for a long walk every morning and in the evenings. One of our favorite walks takes us down to some fields where a little boy and girl watch the cows. We help round them up; it's great fun.

Last evening Miss B., Esther, and I were honored by an invitation dinner with a General. We had a delightful time, and we finished with coffee in the garden. It was certainly a picture in the dusk with the moon man just coming up over the trees. I shall certainly remember the evening. . . . . .

I can't tell you how much I admire and love the U. S. It knows how to take care of its girls; I think the men think so too.

I am counting the weeks till you come and hope it will be very soon.

EXPLORING

DEAREST MOTHER:

Tootsie and I tried a great stunt yesterday. She has a bicycle and I borrowed one from Louise. Off we started yesterday morning on our wheels. We passed an old château, which is from the thirteenth century; of course, we had to stop. It is just on the banks of a little river named ———. We went through the grounds and visited the inside. It was certainly quaint. The dining-room is a long room paneled in some dark wood. There was an immense fireplace at one end with one of those big iron hoods with different trophies, including old helmets, swords, and a pistol. Around a molding half way up the wall were the oldest plates, the loveliest things I have ever seen. On the other side of the room was an immense cupboard, also of some dark wood, all hand carved. In fact, the whole thing impressed us as if we were reading a long-ago story and living in it. The dining-room and drawing-room were the only ones with any amount of furniture in them.

After having had a nice glass of water, we went again for about twenty kilometers. It was about twelve o'clock, so we stopped in a little town and tried to get something

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to eat but could not until we asked a dear old lady if she could tell us where to get some milk. She very kindly offered us some. So in we went to her nice, cool kitchen.

THEY MEET AN OLD FRIEND

As she was getting the milk we noticed a statue which was that of Liberty. We asked her how she came to have it. We thought some soldier in passing through might have given it to her. She satisfied our minds by telling us her husband helped put it up some twenty-eight or thirty years ago, and had lived in New York eight years. When we told her we were from New York, she quickly got some potatoes and made some French fried potatoes, lovely French eggs, *fromage a la crême*, with thick cream, and some kind of cake made without sugar. We certainly enjoyed our lunch. She wouldn't accept anything, so we left something under her husband's tobacco jar.

Off we started again, this time going for five or six kilometers more, when we suddenly thought of an engagement for tea we had with some charming people that are perfectly lovely to us. So back we came lickety split, arriving here at four. We washed the ends of our noses and then dashed off. To my great dismay and horror when I looked at myself in the mirror,—I hadn't had time before, I found a face which was sunburned the color of the poppies we passed in the fields. All in all, we had a great day.

The Pessimist

"WHAT are you howling for?" "Well, this is wrong, and that is wrong, nothing is being done right. How can we win the war when everything around us shouts 'inefficiency'?"

"What makes you think no efficient work is being done?"

"Oh! Who hears of it? Read the papers, listen to critics, and all you learn is that this or that board has fallen down on aircraft production, building of ships, munitions, and what not."

"Hm! There you hit the nail on the head! The minute a person is dissatisfied, you hear him. When everything runs along smoothly, he says nothing. In fact, the more the wheels are oiled, and the smoother they run around, the less he notices them. It's human nature. Make a man uncomfortable, and he'll complain.

"There's the telephone business, for instance. Who hears about the tremendous work it has done, both before and since the outbreak of the war? Why, you and I and every one of the millions of people who use the telephone every day in the year rarely give a thought to the wonderful efficiency of the Bell System, but if an operator does not answer within the usual three seconds, we feel very much abused."

Central Office Night Force, Manhattan-Bronx Plant, on their annual outing at New Dorp, S. I., July 20

Special—Night Hawks Seen in the Day Time

"TOOT, toot!" went the whistle of the ferry boat; "We're here!" came the hearty response, and a large band of men rushed through the gates of the ferry house.

"Why is that large crowd of men embarking at South Ferry?" asked the casual passerby. "A sightseeing tour?" "No." "A missionary conference?" "No, emphatically, see the smiles on their faces." "Conscripts?" "No, again. If you must know, they are volunteers for a summer outing, and in the night time they constitute a force of the New York Telephone Company."

The ferry whistle blew another mighty blast, "Toot, toot," "We're off!" and it isn't for France, but for "Somewhere in Staten Island." The "somewhere" turned out to be New Dorp.

In accordance with what has become an established custom, the members of the Central Office Night Force, Manhattan-Bronx Plant, held their summer outing on Saturday, July 20.

Stationed throughout the Metropolitan Division, from Broad to Tremont, the men seldom have an opportunity to get together, so it was not strange that practically everyone turned out. Troubles were forgotten and cords could "go hang," the boys were out of service for the day.

Reunions among the veterans of the force, and introductions among all were an essential part of the affair. Now that the Night Force is a storehouse of man-power for all branches of the military service, the personnel changes so rapidly that introductions are always in order.

Before New Dorp was reached the most diffident ones (night men are shy violets) felt at ease and entered into the spirit of the occasion. Arrived at the beach, the bath houses were taken by assault, and no time was lost in getting off the hot sands and into the water. Swimmers and splashers—all reveled in the cooling depths.

As a warming-up exercise preliminary to dinner, sides were chosen for a tug-of-war. Former Night Wire Chief P. L. Johnson picked and led a band of stalwarts who were unbeatable.

Then the dinner! Sixty-five hungry men answered the call and attacked the Hooverized feed. War bread and all, the food disappeared in an astonishingly short time. Ye scribe noticed that the guests, G. Mittlesdorf, R. S. Jewett, and P. L. Johnson had brought their appetites along. On the whole, the dinner was pronounced good, at least it served to appease the hungry crowd.

A feature of the day was the ball game which later claimed the attention of all. With so many new men of unknown talents, there was no telling what baseball prodigies would be uncovered. B. M. Okkerse combed the Central Manhattan and Bronx men for likely players. J. A. Quinn had the pick of Southern Manhattan. The rival captains having chosen their teams, the game was carried on for four innings—long enough for Southern Manhattan to run up a score of 7 runs to 4 for Central and Bronx.

The tired crowd journeyed homeward in the evening satisfied, which was sufficient reward for M. C. Garrabrant and his committee, who labored mightily to make the occasion a success.

TRY AGAIN

We don't know what to call him. We'd hate to make a botch,
And mispronounce a hero like great and splendid Foch.
But anyhow we laud him and loudly cry, "B'gosh!—
"However they pronounce him, hurrah for General Foch!"

—*Kansas City Star.*

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The Inception of the Telephone Exchange at Englewood

WE may laugh and jest about "those good old days," and say that they seem bright and fair because they are far away, but there are few of us who do not get great enjoyment out of talking over old times, by-gone experiences, and one-time friends.

So it is that there is a fraternity of telephone people, who, when they get together, all turn to one subject,—their early experiences with the telephone company.

The beginning of an adventure, when the future is peopled with all sorts and kinds of alluring possibilities, when nothing is certain except that the adventure itself is a wonderful one, and one that can lead only to great things, cannot help being surrounded with romance and glamour. The early "beginnings" of the telephone industry in New York were fraught with adventure and full of promise for the far-sighted men who launched them.

So it is that every now and then a little note, a phrase, or even a document, comes to light that reveals to us, who have followed in the path that they blazed, the almost unbelievable growth in telephonic communication that has taken place in "making a neighborhood of a nation."

We are, therefore, publishing a portion of a letter to Mr. H. Bell, while he was local commercial manager at Englewood, from William A. Childs, which once more illustrates how "great oaks from little acorns grow!" Mr. Childs was president and treasurer of the Law Telephone Company in New York at the time referred to in his letter. He wrote:

It occurred to me that you might like to have on file the subscription paper which started the Englewood Exchange in 1883. In overhauling recently a lot of old documents brought from the attic of my Englewood house, this paper came to light.

In explanation of my early activity in the matter, let me say I had no direct interest in the Company; I wished chiefly to secure the service for Englewood. I had tried in vain to induce the Company to undertake the work themselves. The Exchange would not pay, they declared. I expressed the belief that fifty subscribers at fifty dollars per year could be secured to start it. They did not believe it. Finally I asked if they would go ahead if I obtained them. To this they readily agreed. So I obtained them, and obtained them all within about three weeks' time! I secured more than fifty,—I think about sixty.

The paper has but forty-three subscriptions; the remainder were on the duplicate paper therein referred to. Probably I turned in that duplicate to the Company.

Of the two classes of subscribers most desired by other subscribers, namely, physicians and plumbers, I did not secure a single name.

This was because these people believed the telephone would be to them more of an inconvenience than otherwise, and they agreed, one with another, not to subscribe. Had I succeeded in breaking these two combinations, or either of them, I could have obtained many more subscribers.

I note with sadness that fully three-fourths of this list of forty-three, nearly all of them my friends and neighbors for many years, have now gone to the great beyond!

The Exchange was established in 1883, and probably about the middle of that year.

The construction work was begun probably in March, but the usual opposition to setting of poles and stringing of wires had to be met and overcome. Very likely the start was made when twenty-five subscribers were connected, but the Company had contracts with more than fifty subscribers at the time.

How great a change has taken place since the signing of this petition in 1883! It has been the privilege of many of these subscribers to witness one of the most remarkable evolutions in the world's history of scientific development. In the Englewood Exchange area there were on July 1, 1918, 2,777 telephone stations. In fact, some portions of the city have reached the point of telephonic saturation, every house being provided with a telephone! Gone is the fear that the telephone will be a "disturbance." And as for the physicians and plumbers!

The wonder now is that the world ever got along without it!

One of the "Young Adventurers"

"WHAT we want to do in every case," wrote Theodore N. Vail in 1897, "is to adopt the best system, and that we think we have. Then if there is anything better, we should, of course, want to adopt that."

How his words stand out as indicative of the policy of the Bell System ever since that time! The history of the system is the history of the encouragement of telephonic invention. The best, and only the best inventions, were commercialized, and given to the public. Little defects were studied and gradually eliminated, largely, in the early days, through the efforts of young enthusiasts, who, with the aid of the Company, worked faithfully toward the perfection of the telephone.

The story of Dr. E. H. Lyon's share in perfecting the transmitter is told by him in a note written to thank us for sending him THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, and will be found to be of great interest.

I began my career in 1880 as an inspector for the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company, at the modest little building corner of Liberty and Greenwich Streets. There, under the direction of J. R. Wiley, it became the duty and responsibility of our inspection force of about twenty-five men to visit almost daily every instrument in the Metropolitan district, and impart a micrometer adjustment to the lamp black pastile in each Edison transmitter, returning, perhaps, to repeat the operation on the same instrument a few hours later if the talk had been strenuous. Thenceforth a transmitter that would automatically adjust itself became my dream.

In 1884, through the kindly interest of Mr. Gilliland and Mr. Doolittle, I became an assistant in the experimental laboratory of the American Bell Telephone Company in Boston. I had the honor to be one of the "young adventurers" mentioned in Mr. Casson's *History of the Telephone*, and was allowed to specialize upon the Hunnings Transmitter, while the Company regularly paid my salary and waited for results, until from a Boston coal yard and the heating furnace in the cellar of my little flat in Cambridge, I was able to produce the anthracite granules which later, under the finishing touches of Anthony White and other patient workers, resulted in the self-adjusting Solid Back Transmitter now in universal use.

I consider it a great privilege to have been associated even in a modest way with that wonderful group of men, technical and executive, so many of whom have become famous in the annals of the telephone.

Dr. Lyon keeps alive his interest in the telephone industry through being the principal owner of the South Atlantic Telephone and Telegraph Company at Miami, Fla., where his winter home is located. Recently his company became connected with the Bell System, when the extension to Key West was completed. The event was celebrated by a trans-continental demonstration for his employees, which was arranged for by Mr. Vail.

The "little group of young adventurers" was the beginning of the technical laboratory of the Bell System, in which more than four hundred scientists are now engaged,—a body unequalled in any country, and all Americans.

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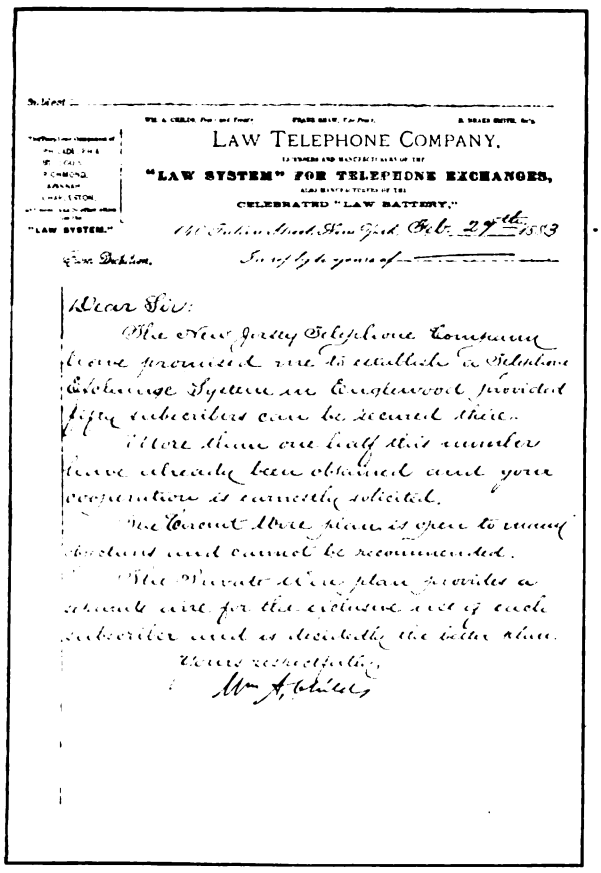


LAW TELEPHONE COMPANY.

"LAW SYSTEM" FOR TELEPHONE EXCHANGES,

CELEBRATED "LAW BATTERY."

"LAW SYSTEM."

Dear Sir:

The New Jersey Telephone Company have promised me to establish a Telephone Exchange System in Englewood provided fifty subscribers can be secured there.

More than one half this number have already been obtained and your cooperation is earnestly solicited.

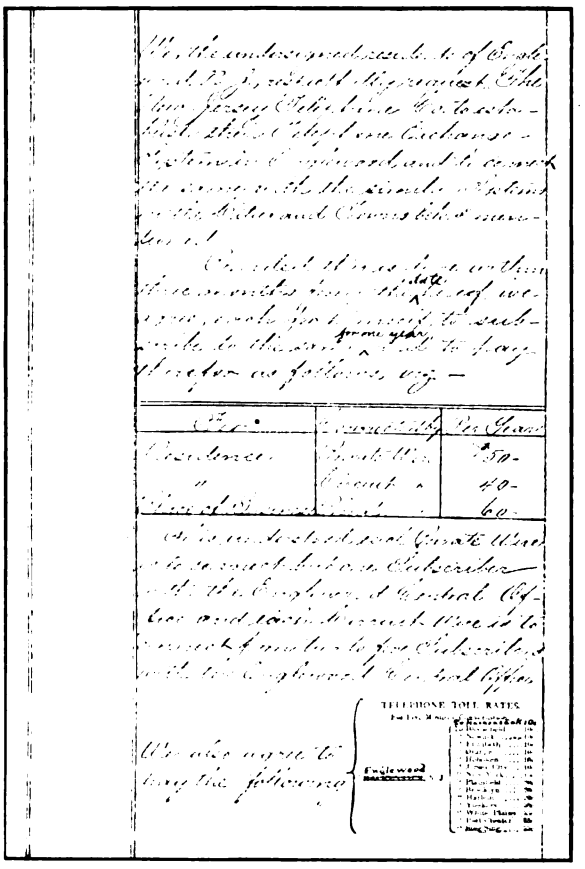
The Circuit Wire plan is open to many objections and cannot be recommended.

The Private Wire plan provides a separate wire for the exclusive use of each subscriber and is decidedly the better plan.

Yours respectfully,

Wm A. Childs

First Page



We, the undersigned residents of Englewood, N. J., respectfully request the New Jersey Telephone Co. to establish a Telephone Exchange System in Englewood, and to connect the same with the similar System in the Water and Towns below mentioned.

Provided there is done within three months from the date hereof we agree, each for himself, to subscribe to the same for one year and to pay therefor as follows, viz.—

Fee	Connected by	Per Year
Residence	Private Wire	$50-
"	Circuit "	40-
Place of Business	[illegible]	60-

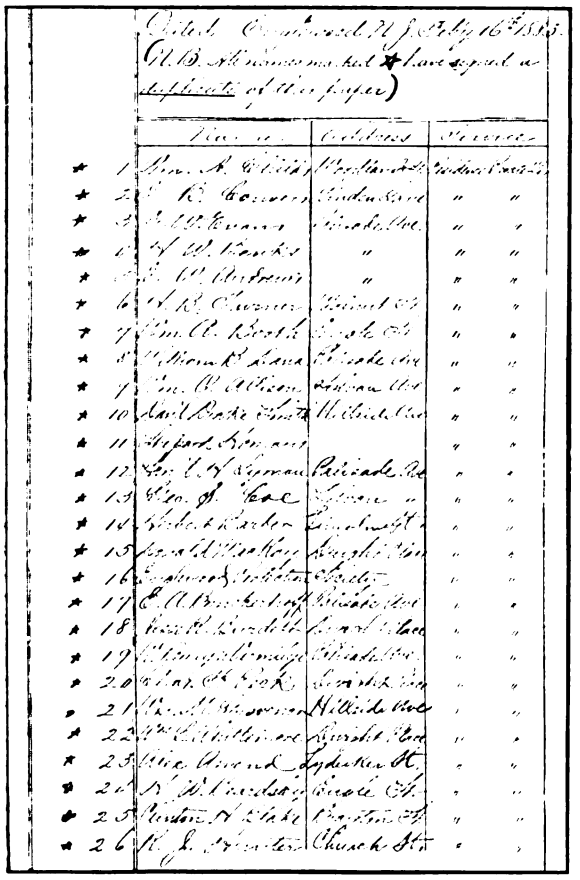
It is understood that Private Wire is to connect but one Subscriber with the Englewood Central Office and each Circuit Wire is to connect from two to five Subscribers with the Englewood Central Office.

We also agree to pay the following

TELEPHONE TOLL RATES

Englewood

Second Page

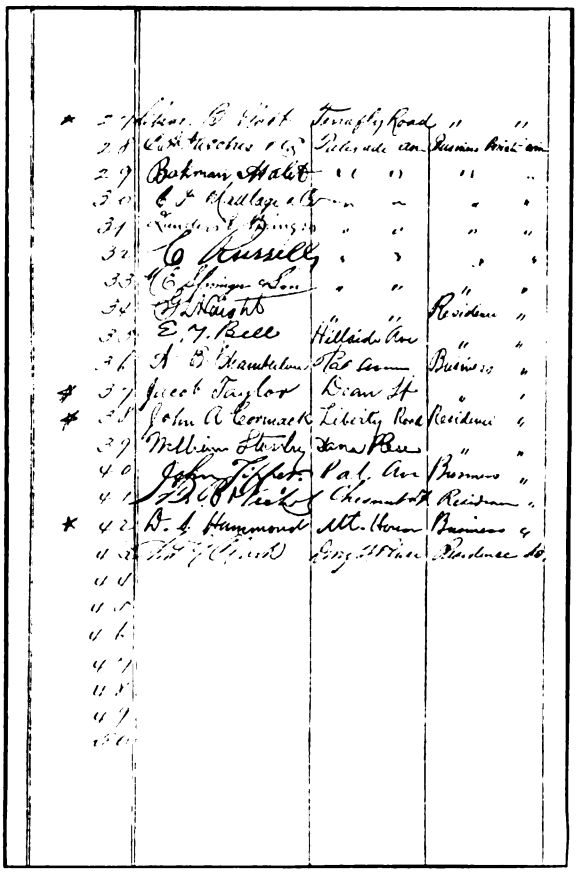


Dated Englewood N. J. Feby 16th 1883.

(N.B. All names marked ★ have signed a duplicate of this paper)

		Name	Address	Service
★	1	Wm. A. Childs	Woodland Ave	Residence Private Wire
★	2	[illegible]	Linden Ave	" "
★	3	[illegible]	Lincoln Ave	" "
★	4	H. W. Banks	"	" "
★	5	[illegible]	"	" "
★	6	H. B. Sawyer	Walnut St	" "
★	7	Wm. A. Booth	Engle St	" "
★	8	William B. Lane	Palisade Ave	" "
★	9	Wm. C. Allison	Sylvan Ave	" "
★	10	Saml Beake Smith	Hillside Ave	" "
★	11	Stephen Lyman		" "
★	12	Saml H. Lyman	Palisade Ave	" "
★	13	Geo. S. Coe	Sylvan "	" "
★	14	Robert Barber	Lincoln St	" "
★	15	Ronald MacKay	Knight Place	" "
★	16	Englewood Protection Society		" "
★	17	E. A. Bonckerhoff	Palisade Ave	" "
★	18	Jesse R. Burdett	Lincoln Place	" "
★	19	[illegible]	Palisade Ave	" "
★	20	Chas. H. Fork	Lincoln Place	" "
★	21	[illegible]	Hillside Ave	" "
★	22	Wm. C. Whittemore	Lincoln Place	" "
★	23	Alex. Amend	Lydecker St	" "
★	24	N. W. Coardsley	Engle St	" "
★	25	Clinton H. Blake	Brighton St	" "
★	26	R. J. Hunter	Church St	" "

Third Page



★	27	Lucas B. Flott	Terrafly Road	" "
	28	C. A. Hoches & Co	Palisade Ave	Business Private Wire
	29	Bakman Hall	" "	" "
	30	C. J. Hallage & Co	" "	" "
	31	Lunders & Bingo	" "	" "
	32	C. Russell	" "	" "
	33	C. Springer & Son	" "	" "
	34	G. L. Haight	" "	Residence "
	35	E. T. Bell	Hillside Ave	" "
	36	A. B. Chamberlain	Palisade Ave	Business "
★	37	Jacob Taylor	Dean St	" "
★	38	John A. Cormack	Liberty Road	Residence "
	39	William Stanley	Dana Place	" "
	40	John Tipper	Pal. Ave	Business "
	41	[illegible]	Chestnut St	Residence "
★	42	D. J. Hammond	Mt. Horeb	Business "
	43	[illegible]	[illegible]	Residence do.
	44			
	45			
	46			
	47			
	48			
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	50			

Fourth Page

PROPOSED TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR ENGLEWOOD, FEBRUARY, 1883

The system was promptly established as the result of the subscriptions secured by Mr. Wm. A. Childs

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A Trip on a Transport

THERE is an old moralizing story that tells about two brothers who went out for a walk one morning. They walked along, and while they both looked at the scenery, only one of them really saw. On their return home they were asked how they enjoyed their walk. One replied that he hadn't liked it very much,—it was rather stupid. The other was in raptures over the singing of the birds, the green of the fields, the beauty of the landscapes.

And so it is with many of us. Some are blessed with vision that colors life with a thousand changing lights, and makes each little incident a thing worth while. Among these is George C. Donnelly, of the traffic department, Hudson Division, now serving in France. He has not only the facility to enjoy and feel things that another might pass by, but also to hand on to us some of what he felt. His trip across the Atlantic in one of Uncle Sam's big transports is fraught with interest for all who read:

Of our sudden departure from the South and its "sung of" sunniness, of our slow, tiresome and circuitous northward journey to an Atlantic port, there is little to say. In the main, these notes follow us from the time we trailed upon the husky, trim-looking transport until the last period is struck. As I have not yet met Monsieur, the censor, caution will be my plan.

When the entire detachment, of which we became a part, assembled, it was quite apparent from the array of spread eagles, et cetera, that Lieutenants would not amount to much. That became more evident when five of us landed in one inside stateroom on "D" deck.

The boat is spacious, clean, and well appointed. Could I tell her name, you would consider us greatly favored. On it there is a myriad of troops, the majority white, a good number colored. The latter are a study. Recruited from the Carolinas, Kentucky, and Georgia, and finding themselves launched on their premier tour, they are so moved that blank amazement is their one expression. They are big, manly fellows, look well in uniform, but are *not* designed to be packed like sardines in a ship's hold. Like their race, they are strong physically. I asked one what outfit he belonged to. He grinned and said, "Boss, I doan knows what Ah am, Ah doan knows wha Ise a-gwine, but Ise de happiest black man in de world." That's almost fatalism. He will succeed as a soldier.

GETTING STARTED

Our first day on board brought no movement. Tied to the dock she was when we retired; she was there when we awoke next morning. We could not go ashore. Near us was a thriving city. We were in it but not of it. However, time soon flew.

Toward evening of a certain day bugles blew. We were ordered below. Soon there was vibration, the needle of our compasses swung at right angles, and the dock was cleared. When we were again allowed on deck, land was just disappearing.

Thus far, the sea has been as smooth as a mill pond. We are running at about twelve knots. Meals are wonderful.

The spirit of those on board is light-hearted and gay. Scraps of songs float up from the blacks while an occasional twang of the stringed instrument steals out of a cabin door. On the aft deck is boxing, wrestling, and horse-play. Troops receive daily setting-up exercises. Lieutenant X claims sleeping to be sufficiently strenuous. One is inclined to agree, and—follow suit.

Rumors, to be sure, are as plentiful and varied as they were in camp. The third assistant cabin-boy just heard someone who heard somebody else tell someone who heard somebody else say that a wireless had been received to the effect that three subs had escaped the convoy (not yet seen) and were waiting for us. If this letter is never received, you may believe the story. It is also known to be a fact that a sea-plane paid us a call last night.

ON THE WATCH

A daily "ship's" paper called the *Hatchet* is published. Aside from baseball scores, "Letters to Dere Mable," and world brevities, we get old, rut-worn squibs on the "nightmare," boxing the compass, and what not. A worthy sheet.

Have been detailed as a supernumerary lookout, which means being ready for call between 1:30 to 2:30 A. M., 9:30 to 10:30 A. M., and 5:30 to 6:30 P. M. Have done two tricks, both on "A" deck bridge, forward. Saw "nary" an object save three whales, a sea-gull, and a piece of driftwood. One always wonders why a "sup" is always needed on a trick like the 1:30 to 2:30 A. M., yet the air of the bridge was quite preferable to that of our cabin last night. Terrifically hot and close, our "Harlem flat" became an oven. There were five innocent "big heads" when morning dawned. All port holes are closed during dark hours.

With the sea a dead calm, we are drifting about, apparently waiting. A ship ahead is firing with its forward guns at some floating target. We can see the flash only. Everyone hopes that our guns may fire, too. "Not that they need it," say the crew, who unanimously claim that we have the best gunners in the Navy, but that they "may show those nearsighted land lubbers up." We have the necessary *esprit* surely.

I am told that the colored boys held a revival last night. I must for "shure" attend the next. A thick-skinned, bullet-headed smoke told me this morning that he "doan never know dat dey wus a wah until he was carted off to town and white man done say, 'Nigger! what size am yo' feet?'" He was thereupon shod, clothed, shipped to Chicago and, here he is—21 days in service and as many years richer in experience. Like all others, he radiates supreme happiness.

We have made little progress. Again have we drifted. The accuracy of our gunners has truly justified all the faith placed upon them by the crew, as nearly every shot at a target trailed by another ship registered a hit or close-hit. We will sleep better having seen an actual demonstration of their ability. There have also been several "abandon-ship" drills or, as a nigger is supposed to have said, "drownin' drills."

An occasional watch on deck "A" bridge keeps me busy. Recently while on lookout I heard, "30 degrees starboard 500 yards, Portugese man-of-war." I strained my eyes but saw nothing. A question seemed obvious, but I demurred. Later I heard that the title applied to that loose-jointed creature, jelly fish. Am glad that I maintained my silence.

DARK NIGHT

It cannot be honestly said that one hour in night's darkest period brings forth any great joy as to the prospect of whether one does or does not go on watch. If he undresses he is sure to be called, if he does not, well, he may be called anyway. At all events he is dead certain to be in sound snoredum when a flash of light floods his room. He startles, hears some one say something that sounds like "want-bridge-once" and proceeds to get ready for his trick. If his room-mates wake up (and they always do) his exit is bordered with language. He feels like joining in (and perhaps he does). Through dark alleys he gradually finds the deck, is hailed and halted by a sentry every ten yards, and then tries to go up the dungeon-like companion-way, just as a sextette of bunk-eager grouches try to come down. The situation is not pleasant. However, he reaches his post, sees all the wild objects night can manufacture, and after ages welcomes the tread of the new relief as it emerges from the darkness below, then to return to a stuffy old bunk and sleep. Stuffy or not, sleep he does. . . .

This afternoon there was a "battle royal" between six men from Africa. Was quite amused to hear their spokesman address the crowd as "Lieutenants and gennimans of de navy." Poor darkies, the old sea is beginning to buck. They'll be on their superstitious knees before mahnin.'" She's ducking head-on like a sea lion. Ahead of us a smaller craft looks like a bobbing cork. The moral effect of getting out the "emergency" bunk cups is not encouraging. Thus far "Yours T." has held his rations. . . .

Another day after a rough old night. There were "empties" at morning mess. It is cold and murky. At noon orders were issued that we must keep all clothes on at all times and keep a life-belt and full canteen of water on hand always. I have been assigned to life raft No. 13. It looks a precocious as any of 'em. Two more "drownin' drills" this morning. Was able to and did stow away a wonderful turkey dinner. They know how to eat in the navy. The ocean is extremely void of traffic. . . .

After a cold, cheerless night, broken up by a trick between 1:30 and 2:30 A. M., a beautiful, sunny day has dawned. The sea is as calm and as tranquil as a mountain lake. There is no news, no rumors, nothing. We have been at sea long enough to wish for land. Even a Texas mesa would be acceptable. Officers and men clad in their garments of safety look like the 16th century knights of the court of good Queen Bess. Though clumsy, they are warm. I wonder if they float.

A fleet of tramps passed at sundown.

We are at last met by a convoy of destroyers, truly very welcome. The mental condition of one, subject to the back or

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below-the-girdle thrust of an unseen foe is not pleasant. How far from land we are remains to be seen. . . .

"THAT'S US ALL OVER"

As these added words are being jotted down, the cable is no doubt wiring eastward our safe arrival to the sunny shores of France. It is a welcome sight. Long before dawn sneaked over the distant horizon we were turned from berth and hammock for a final "drownin' drill," sleepily went once more below and were allowed to sneak in a short snooze before that welcome blast of mess call. When we again awoke, the rock-bound shores of Europe, clean-cut and well defined in the bright sunshine, stood out to welcome our seatired eyes.

Slowly we worked our way into a beautiful, peaceful harbor, its waters heavily laden with all manner of craft, from grim men-of-war to bulldog destroyers, from burdened tramp to fishing dories, their red or blue sails in vivid contrast to the other drab vessels of low visibility color and camouflage design.

On each shore of the bay we can see roof and spire of house and church, while lazily drifts over the town a captive balloon, a huge sausage-like affair which reminds us that from *U*-boat we have escaped to run into just another menace, the aeroplane of the Hun. Yet when one looks out over the peaceful hills it is hard to believe that beyond lie two long lines, the ultimate destination which some day we may reach and either find or lose our own peculiar selves.

With their characteristic adaptability the American soldiers soon find someone to josh and something to josh about. Every French sailor receives an ovation of one of three "bonmots"—"Oui, Oui," "Parlez-vous Française," or "Bon jour,"—that invariably appended by "French." Thus greeted they are showered by cigarettes, candy and other morsels for which the wooden-shod sailors scramble like Park Row newsies. In reply, "Frenchy" will add "So longa," "much oblige," and "Bye." Already fraternization has begun.

On the aft deck a band is passing out a real American air while the lads struggle away with its chorus. It is "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here." They come in particularly strong on the "What the H— do we care." As "Bill" would say to "Dere Mable," "That's us all over."

A CURE FOR STUTTERING

There is a certain member of congress who stutters except when he makes a speech or talks over the telephone. Recently he had occasion to call up a friend in Seattle on a matter of personal importance. When the transcontinental connection had been made the man in Seattle shouted through the phone:

"Who is talking?"

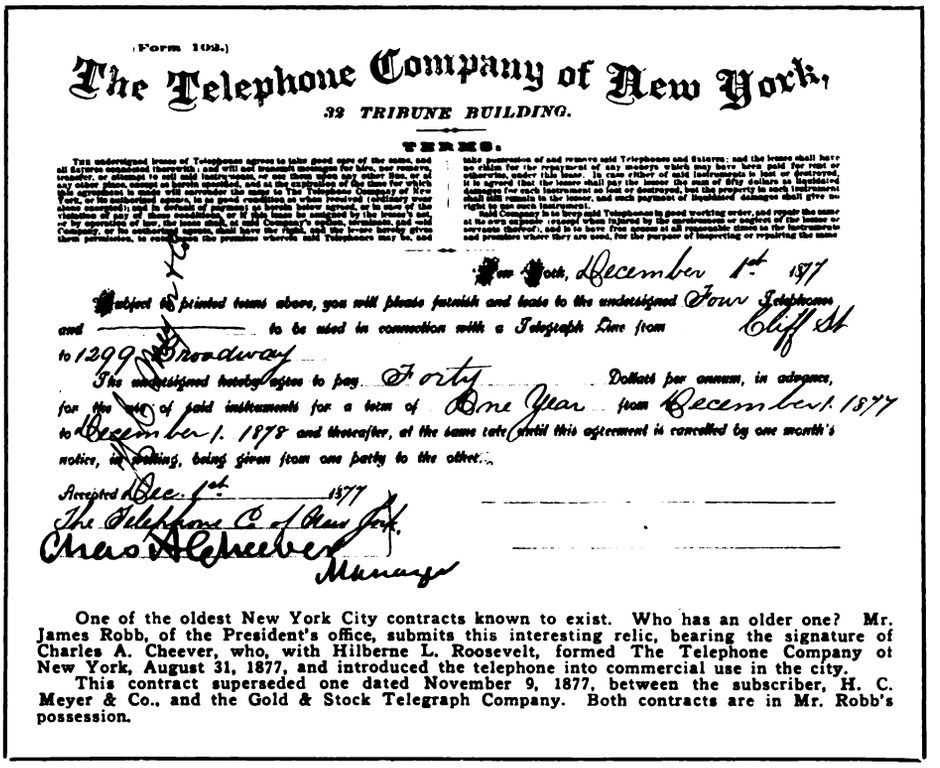
"This is Tom Smith," answered the congressman at the capital end of the wire.

"No, it is not Tom Smith," snapped the man in Seattle.

"Yes, it is Tom Smith, I tell you," the congressman fairly bellowed. "Why do you doubt it?"

"Why, Tom Smith stutters."

"Darn it, do you think I am going to stutter at a dollar a word?" the congressman retorted, as he banged down the phone in disgust.—*Clipped.*



(Form 102.)

The Telephone Company of New York,

32 TRIBUNE BUILDING.

TERMS.

New York, December 1st 1877

Subject to printed terms above, you will please furnish and lease to the undersigned Four Telephones and ——— to be used in connection with a Telegraph Line from Cliff St to 1299 Broadway

The undersigned hereby agrees to pay Forty Dollars per annum, in advance, for the use of said instruments for a term of One Year from December 1. 1877 to December 1. 1878 and thereafter, at the same rate, until this agreement is cancelled by one month's notice, in writing, being given from one party to the other.

Accepted Dec. 1st 1877

The Telephone Co of New York.

Chas A Cheever Manager

One of the oldest New York City contracts known to exist. Who has an older one? Mr. James Robb, of the President's office, submits this interesting relic, bearing the signature of Charles A. Cheever, who, with Hilberne L. Roosevelt, formed The Telephone Company of New York, August 31, 1877, and introduced the telephone into commercial use in the city.

This contract superseded one dated November 9, 1877, between the subscriber, H. C. Meyer & Co., and the Gold & Stock Telegraph Company. Both contracts are in Mr. Robb's possession.

At the Common Table

SOMETIMES we wonder just how much is being accomplished by our little individual bit of saving, and we have to take the word of the fuel administration, the food administration, or the Government that it is counting, and plod doggedly along the good trail. But once in a while some figures are published that make us "perk up" and feel that we are doing something, after all. When we read such a statement as this one, printed in *The Official Bulletin* of August 12, we are inspired to keep up the good work. By our economy we have released for our Allies 120,000,000 bushels of wheat. Let us do the same wtih sugar!

America, which made exports of 140,000,000 bushels of wheat in the closing crop year, where less than 20,000,000 bushels surplus appeared, is called upon now to exercise like virtue with sugar.

The burden of maintaining allied supplies falls on our resources.

No sugar comes from central Europe, none from Java; from Hawaii and the West Indies less than usual.

French sugar territory is overrun by German armies; French sugar mills are taken and destroyed.

Submarine sinkings and losses by battle have cost us great stores; labor shortage makes inroads on production.

For England the allowance is two pounds of sugar a month; for France, one pound; for Italy, one pound. America seeks to share equally with all who sit at the common table, joined in the common defense.

GARDEN COURTESIES

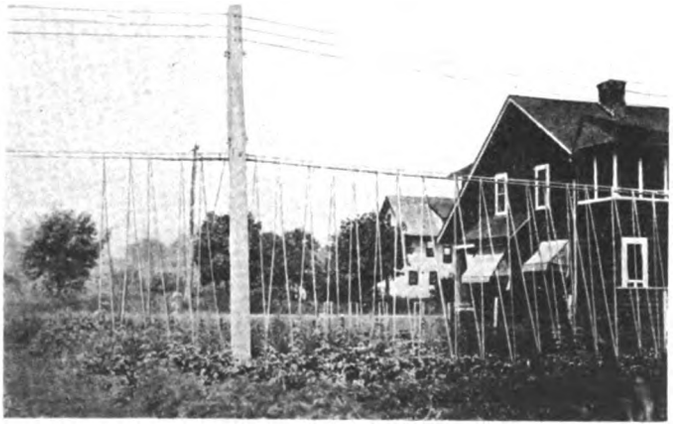
One morning Jorkins looked over his fence and said to his neighbor, Harkins:

"What are you burying in that hole?"

"Just replanting some of my seeds, that's all," was the answer.

"Seeds!" exclaimed Jorkins, angrily, "It looks more like one of my hens!"

"That's all right," said the other. "The seeds are inside."—*Harper's Magazine.*



POLE LINE OR SUSPENSION STRAND LIMAS

An enthusiastic war gardener in Brooklyn uses a block cable suspension strand to hold the strings for her bean vines. Right-of-way men take notice!

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Conserving Man-Power

Riding along a country road at a good clip on the rear end or sides of a motor truck may be great fun, but . . . . !

The safe way may not be so thrilling, but then, neither are broken bones!

A sudden bump over a cobblestone or a depression in the road may change both one's position and one's point of view considerably

A Tac-tical Error

Isn't it queer how a little stone will get in the way when you don't "watch your step" in crossing a trench?

And when it "bowls you over" you change your ways, and decide that . . . .

In the future you will negotiate a trench without trying to walk and talk at the same time

After you've climbed a pole, finished your job, and almost reached ground again, you drop the last foot or so, thinking to yourself, "Well, that's finished"

But perhaps it isn't. Sometimes that last foot or so will prove your Waterloo, especially if you land on an uneven rock and get an ugly fall like this

It is
BETTER to be
CAREFUL
than SORRY

Avoid Accidents
for your
OWN SAKE

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

A Municipal Contract Fixing Rates Does Not Deprive the State of Control

THE Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey ordered the Atlantic Coast Electric Railway Company to furnish transfers from Bradley Beach to Asbury Park and vice versa. The company asserted that the ordinance under which it operated through Bradley Beach provided for a five-cent fare without said transfer; that said franchise was a contract between it and the municipality; and that the order of the commission was in violation of said contract and, therefore, illegal. The Supreme Court agreed with this contention and held that the franchise ordinance which fixed the fare in the stated territory at "no more than five cents" and which was accepted by the company was a contract binding both upon the company and the municipality, and that it was incompetent for the Board of Public Utility Commissioners to violate that contract by imposing upon the company an additional burden, the effect of which was to require it to carry passengers for the same fare beyond the point fixed in the franchise.

The matter was then taken to the Court of Errors and Appeals which reversed the judgment of the Supreme Court and held, among other things, that the municipalities of the State acted solely by virtue of legislative authority and as legislative agents, and had only such powers as were delegated to them by the Legislature. That the powers of municipalities in the granting of franchises to street railways are limited under the New Jersey Statutes to giving consent to the construction, operation, and maintenance of the street railway, the location of its tracks, and the imposing of "lawful restriction." That while it is settled that the power to fix rates may be delegated to a municipality, and that rates so fixed may amount to an irrepealable contract binding future Legislatures, this delegation must, however, clearly and unmistakably appear, and cannot be extended by implication. That there is no express grant of power to the municipalities of New Jersey to fix rates or to contract as to rates. That the power delegated is the power to impose lawful restrictions which is not a delegation of the power to fix rates, and that the power to fix unchangeable or unreasonable rates cannot be implied from the words "lawful restrictions."

The court further points out that the "lawful restrictions" authorized by the statute must be lawful from time to time and at all times. That what was lawful in 1897, when the franchise in question was granted, was just and reasonable rates and practices, and that it would be absurd to contend that the municipality and the railroad company under the power to impose "lawful restrictions" could have fixed by agreement unjust and unreasonable rates and practices. That if the rates become unreasonable and the practices unjust, they cease to be lawful. That unchangeable rates and practices are almost certain to become unlawful. That the Legislature did not change the law in this respect by the enactment of the Public Utilities act of 1911, since said statute authorizes only just and reasonable rates and practices, and puts into statutory form what was in 1897 and what always has been lawful.

The court held further that under said statute the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners was given power, among other things, to fix just and reasonable rates, standards, classifications, regulations, practices, measurements of service, et cetera, and to require railroads and street railways to establish and maintain just and reasonable connections with other lines. That these powers are quite enough to justify the order of the Commission whether it is regarded as a regulation of practices or fares.

Municipal Authorities Recognize the Emergency Which Confronts Public Utilities

THE Mayor of the City of Yonkers and the Committee on Public Expenditures of the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce complained to the Public Service Commission of the Second District, New York, that the rates charged for electricity by the Yonkers Electric Light and Power Company were unjust and unreasonable. Hearings were had before the Commission at which it appeared that the matters in question were involved in certain pending litigation, and a stipulation was entered into whereby consideration of the cases was to be postponed until the final result of such litigation.

Counsel for the complainants thereafter informed the Commission that in the present national emergency they did not deem it proper to proceed with their complaints, and the Commission, therefore, ordered that the cases be closed with leave to reopen them at any time upon request.

A Public Utility is Entitled to a Fair Return Upon the Value of the Property Which it Employs in Giving Service to the Public

IN disposing of the application of the Michigan State Telephone Company for permission to alter its rates in Detroit, the Michigan Railroad Commission held that it was fundamental that the company was entitled to a fair return upon the value of the property which it employed, and which was used and useful in giving service to its subscribers in Detroit. That moreover, it was settled by the courts that in the absence of discrimination, the Commission could not impose upon a public utility rates which would produce an income insufficient to pay taxes, reasonable operating expenses, keep its property in such state of repair as would enable it to render efficient service, provide such depreciation or replacement fund as would, together with salvage value, be sufficient to replace its equipment at the end of its life of usefulness, and, in addition thereto, yield a fair rate of return upon the value of its property.

Public utilities are financed by the investment of private capital, and unless such investments are permitted to yield a rate of return equal to other investments of a similar degree of

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security, private capital will not be attracted to them, and the public will suffer from lack of development and extension of service. History-making events of the present emphasize the demand of every part of the country for the aid and benefit of the resources of every other locality. It is important that the supplies of the whole country be so distributed as to best meet the needs of the country. To secure this, rapid and efficient means of communication are necessary, as well as means of transportation. Capital employed in furnishing such facilities is subjected to regulation to control the service rendered and to limit the compensation taken from the public in return for such service. Capital invested in a strictly private enterprise is permitted to take as its return whatever the public served will pay and the service is without public control or regulation. Capital naturally seeks that investment which promises the highest return with the same degree of safety. It is important, therefore, that the development and extension of public service with the exercise of the power of public regulation be such as will not disturb the investment of new capital in such enterprises. The destruction or serious impairment of the value of securities issued by such companies by undue limitation of rates would strongly tend to discourage such investments, and would result in inevitable and serious public injury through the impairment of the service and the prevention of the constant extension necessary to make the service adequate to the constantly expanding needs of the public. The exercise of the power of public regulations should promote the confidence of the public in public securities rather than constitute a menace to such securities. The duty of the Commission is to see to it that the public is not compelled to pay unfair or unreasonable prices for the service which it receives and equally to see to it that a proper standard of service is maintained, and that he who invests his money in pubilc utility securities is permitted a fair rate of return.

Readiness to Serve Charge Justified

THE Ocean County Gas Company alleging that owing to abnormal conditions brought about by the war its revenues were insufficient, sought authority from the Board of Public Utility Commisioners of New Jersey to establish a readiness to serve charge. The Commission investigated the revenues and expenses of the company, and found that under existing rates there was not sufficient revenue to produce the return to which the company was reasonably entitled.

The Commission, therefore, granted the company's application, holding that the collection of a service charge was reasonable because particular expenses were incurred for each customer served. For each customer the company must provide a meter and maintain it against ordinary wear. It must read the meter, keep account of the readings, and make out and render bills. These expenses and the cost of supplying and maintaining any other of the company's property at the premises of the customer are individual and must be incurred without regard to the amount of gas used. They differ from the cost due to the purchase of materials used at the plant, the employment of labor and manufacture, and the charges which accrue from capital investment in plant and mains and the provision of funds for general maintenance.

The Law Does Not Create a Monopoly in a Utility First in the Field by Requiring That a Second Utility Obtain Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

ON complaint of the Boswell Telephone Company the Circuit Court of Benton County, Indiana, issued an injunction restraining the town of Boswell from granting a franchise to the Farmers' and Merchants' Coöperative Telephone Company until said company had first secured a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Public Service Commission justifying a duplication of investment in a telephone plant in said town. The Farmers' and Merchants' Company appealed to the Supreme Court of Indiana, which affirmed the judgment of the Circuit Court, holding that the provisions of Section 97 of the Public Utilities act, to the effect that no franchise should be granted to any person or corporation to own, operate, manage, or control any public utility in any municipality where there was already in operation a public utility engaged in similar service under a franchise without first securing from the Commission a declaration that public convenience and necessity required such second utility, were constitutional. That said provisions did not create a monopoly in the utility granted the first franchise, since said utility had no exclusive privileges as between itself and the public welfare or interest, and the State might authorize a second utility to enter the field. If the State determines not to grant a second utility the right to operate, it is not because the first is exclusive, but because, in the State's opinion, public welfare will not be served by the second.

The court held further that in view of the State's supervisory power, the Farmers' company was not deprived by said section of the statute of any inalienable right or liberty to engage in a lawful business or to hold property, nor was any such right or property taken from it without compensation, nor were privileges or immunities improperly granted. It has been firmly settled that contracts made or franchises granted which involve the State's welfare are not, except in rare instances, such contracts that the exercise of the State's police power regarding the subject matter thereof is an impairment of contract rights. Such contracts were made subject to the State's police power.

The court states that the public welfare requires adequate telephone service, and the State has especially reserved the power to say whether one public service company in actual operation shall be free from competition and obliged to maintain its service, or shall be subject to competition in the interest of better service. Because of this public interest, the State has declared that one such company in operation shall not be subjected to competition without the State's consent. This is in effect a prohibition of duplicate use of the streets until the State consents. The utilities in actual operation are so far interested in their ability to maintain adequate service and to thus discharge their obligations to the public that they are deemed proper parties to a proceeding before the Public Service Commission which may result in orders indirectly affecting their ability to render such service, and if aggrieved by an order of the Commission, they have a right to appeal. When such an operating utility alleges that another such utility and the town in which the first operates are threatening to disregard the State's reserve power and to ignore the State's right to first pass upon questions of the State's welfare, and to thus indirectly affect the complainant utility's power to render adequate service, the latter company has a special interest, and may, as the Boswell Telephone Company did, here secure an injunction preventing such interference until the State has expressed its opinion on the subject.

THE HUN INVADES NURSERY RIME

There was a little Hun,
And he had a little gun,
And his bullets were all dumdum, dumdum;
He shinned up a tree
To snipe what he could see,
But now he is in kingdom come-come-come!
—R. M. Eassie, "Odes to Trifles."

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THE TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
Published Monthly by the

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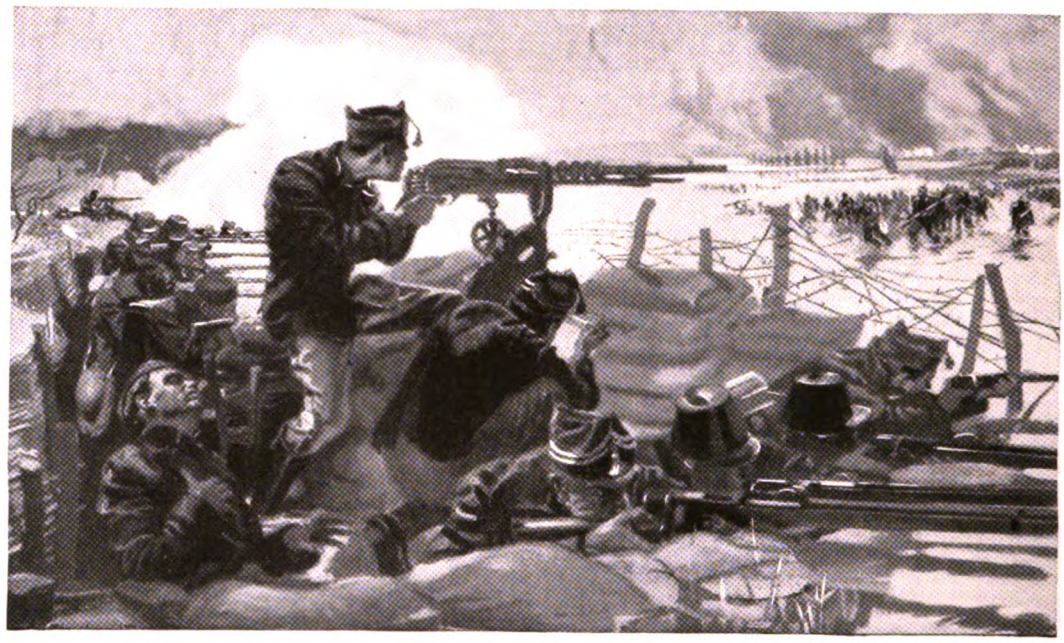

When Belgium Stemmed the Tide

Four years ago the Belgian Army, war-worn and weak in numbers, confronted the Germans on the Yser. From Liege to the last narrow strip of their country they had resisted the invaders inch by inch, glorious even in retreat.

At the Yser the Belgians performed a signal service to the Allied cause by holding the Germans while the gaps were being closed in the Franco-British line to the rear.

Four years have passed, and the same nations are still at death grips along the Western front. America, too, is there, and has this opportunity because the Belgians kept the enemy from crossing the Yser long ago.

The same unfaltering courage, the same inspiration for sacrifice in our army abroad and in our citizens at home will give us victory.

The complete mobilization of the whole people is necessary and the telephone service has an increasingly important part in speeding the national effort.

More than 12,000 members of the Bell System are in military service. Those that remain at home must fill the gaps and do their utmost, with the co-operation of the public, to help win the war.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

W.S.S.
WAR SAVINGS STAMPS
ISSUED BY THE
UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT

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· The TELEPHONE REVIEW ·
Vol. 9 OCTOBER 1918 No. 10

AMERICAN SIGNAL CORPS MEN IN FRANCE

After buying bonds of the Third Liberty Loan, they have stopped to look at posters on their way to mess.—*Committee on Public Information.*

SPEED THE VICTORY

PUT YOUR MONEY BEHIND OUR BOYS

BUY BONDS

OF THE FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN

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A peaceful scene in a French village showing Telephone Line constructed by American Signal Corps men.
Approved by Committee on Public Information

"THE PERFECT SYSTEM OF COMMUNICATION," built by the American Signal Corps and operated by American girls, has been largely responsible for the brilliant success of our fighting forces in France.

"THE SOLDIERS will do their little bit every day, never fear, but those behind the lines must be worthy of them."

—Extract from a Soldier's Letter.

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The Telephone Review
New York October 1918
Vol. IX, No. 10.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE

Bulletin No. 6

Office of the Postmaster General,
Washington, Sept. 5, 1918.

To all Telephone and Telegraph Companies:

Some telephone and telegraph companies have reported to the Department that they are being seriously embarrassed in the operation of their services by employees leaving immediately upon submitting their resignations. In many cases they do so to engage in non-essential work. In order that the telephone and telegraph services may not be handicapped in their operation employees should give the usual two weeks' notice when they desire to terminate their employment.

A. S. BURLESON,
Postmaster General.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE

Bulletin No. 7

Office of the Postmaster General,
Washington, Sept. 10, 1918.

To all Telegraph and Telephone Companies:

Telegraph and telephone companies are hereby authorized to file claims with the local exemption boards for deferred classification for employees who are absolutely indispensable to the operation of the service. The claims for deferred classification shall be sworn to by the supervisory officer under whom the employee works. However, before filing the claim with the local exemption board it must be approved by the division head in charge of the territory in which the employee is registered.

A. S. BURLESON,
Postmaster General.

Speed the Victory

"WAKE up America!" is no longer the cry; now it is, "Speed the Victory!"

Not a heart in America but has been thrilled, not a voice but has been raised in exultation, over the successes of our own blood kindred in the First American Army in France. We never doubted them; we knew they were of iron will and invincible courage. We knew that when the time came they would hurl back the Germans, and plant the Stars and Stripes where the emblem of the Iron Cross of Infamy had flown.

Late, but not too late, thank God! they have stiffened the lines of our gallant Allies, and with them stand a bulwark and offense against the German barbarism that was threatening to overwhelm us in its fury.

Glorious as have been their achievements, their task, will not be finished until victory is complete and final. Even upon the heels of the news of their successes, come warnings that greater efforts are to follow. This should inspire and encourage us, for we know that our troops have only begun to fight, and we can rely on them.

Nearly two million of them are over there now; two hundred and fifty thousand a month are going over; thirteen million more are signed up for the fight! We know them; every last one is kin to some of us. Our hopes, our prayers, our faith are centered in them. They are ours, and we are theirs. The kinship, the cause, the responsibility, each is ours and theirs alike, only our parts have been cast differently.

Without them,—picture the fate that would befall us and all that life holds dear if these brave and noble men and boys were not there to help smash the atrocious Huns and save us from their vengeance!

Without us,—how long could these champions of democracy, honor, and virtue, these defenders of civilization, —how long could they maintain the struggle, and how could they be victorious, without us?

But we have them, and they have us. They do not begrudge the hardships, suffering, even life itself, in the parts they are playing in this great world tragedy; they do not count the cost of Victory!

Should we, then, begrudge the inconveniences or sacrifices called for by our parts in this same world tragedy?

Billions and billions of dollars are needed for the very food and clothing that these loved ones of ours "over there" must have to eat and wear, for the scant personal comforts army life allows, for the arms and ammunition they must use, and for thousands of other purposes of military necessity, in order that this war may be won, won quickly, and won conclusively.

Part of this money is needed to pay the soldiers and sailors who do the fighting. What do they do with this money? The largest part is allotted to their families back here at home, part of it goes to pay for insurance for the benefit of their families back here at home, part of it goes for the purchase of Liberty Bonds and War Savings Certificates,—in case they come back home, and after they get through giving to the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus, et cetera, they have very little left. Think of how much we spend foolishly!

Send back to them the thrill and exultation they have given us,—these soldiers, sailors, marines, aviators, and all the others of our faith and blood, and to our Allies who have fought against such great odds until we were ready to join them,—as we have now done and shall do more fully. And send a chill and dismay into the heart of the kaiser.

The way to do it is by subscribing to the Fourth Liberty Loan.

And that is the way to "Speed the Victory."

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Our Cover

OUR cover this month is an effort to do our bit in advertising the Fourth Liberty Loan.

The photograph from which we have made the colored picture was received from the Committee on Public Information about the same time that news reached us of the victories of our American troops in France. Newspaper reports stated that the success was due largely to the "perfect system of communication" built by our Signal Corps and its operation by our American telephone girls.

When the Liberty Loan Committee asked THE TELEPHONE REVIEW to assist in the campaign of publicity for the next Loan, the thought occurred to us of using this picture on our cover to drive home the duty of every one to "speed the victory" by buying bonds and backing up our boys at the front.

Think of what they are doing "over there," and then let our aim be not only to raise the sum of money asked for, but to double it! Remember, buying bonds is not like paying taxes or making a contribution, as every dollar will be returned with interest.

Needs of the Times

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer (the W. G. McAdoo of England) has presented to the public what he deems the most important financial requirements to meet the financial necessities of the war. Most of them are just as applicable to Americans as to Englishmen, for we are "all in the same boat." Some of them are:

1. A more simple method of living.
2. A reduction of personal household, and business expenses to a minimum.
3. The investment of the money saved by this reduction, in addition to the usual surplus over necessary expenditures.
4. The realization by everyone that he must do all in his power to help his country in this critical time.

It is surprising what one can do when he sets his mind to it. There is hardly a one of us who is exerting himself to the limit, especially in the question of saving and investing our savings in war bonds and other government securities. It is our government, and it will not run itself. A government is only as strong as its people, and unless its people back it financially, it will be powerless. Now, even more than in the time when the words "United we stand, divided we fall," were spoken, we need unity,—unity of thought, words, and of action, and that is what we must strive for. We at home are given, many of us, only this one way to show our loyalty and belief in the United States, and we will show it by our generous subscription to the Liberty Loans and other forms of investment offered to us.

'Tis Courtesy That Makes Business Go Round

"WAR work! No time for courtesy! Have to rush things right along!" Those seem to be the slogans of many busy workers we meet to-day. They have the right end in view, but unfortunately the wrong means to attain it. Courtesy does not mean a waste of time; in fact, in nine cases out of ten it is a saving of time, and in the tenth case it may mean a saving of time in the future, because everyone is desirous of accomplishing more when he is accosted in the right way.

Human nature is "pernickety" the old people used to say. In other words it is contrary. A gruff request or a hasty retort often arouses the ire of the most good natured, and even he will say, "Well, he can just wait for it now," or, "I shall get even with him yet." It is a queer world and the most peculiar thing about it is that we are almost all queer in the same way.

Just as unkindness and incivility come back like a boomerang, geniality and courtesy have the same habit of rebounding. A letter written to "Toll Operator 12," Miss Ethel Kuhl, of a Buffalo Exchange, is just one case in thousands showing how courtesy counts.

August 31, 1918.

Toll Operator 12:

We want to thank you for the very excellent service you gave Mr. Mapes this morning on his call to Haileybury, Ontario. And also thank you for your unfailing courtesy to us in our many toll calls of the last two years. Your pleasant voice and cheerful manner have many times helped to lighten and make easier the work and worries of our office. We take this occasion to thank you for your part in the pleasantness that we try to make a part of the days spent in our office.

Courteously yours,
FRANK L. MAPES.

Daylight Saving

"DO you think early rising is good for your health?" asked the languid city visitor.

"I don't know about my health," replied Farmer Cobbles, "but next to sun, rain, and fertilizer, it's the best thing there is for crops."—(Birmingham *Age Herald.*)

We agree with Farmer Cobbles. The crops this year have certainly benefited by the early rising made possible throughout the length and breadth of the United States by the Daylight Saving law.

"Adaptability" is a word often used by our European friends in commenting on our American traits. America, said a prominent Englishman, is impulsive and often makes mistakes, but the way in which she profits by her mistakes and by the experiences of others is nothing short of marvelous. Her remarkable adaptability has made great things possible.

Our adoption of the Daylight Saving plan which went into effect at two o'clock in the morning of the last Sunday in March was a happy stroke. It had proved efficacious in Europe, and we in America have also found it so. At two o'clock in the morning of the last Sunday in October, we shall revert to our old ways without a hitch, with many things accomplished by the simple little act of advancing our day an hour. We have harvested better and more crops; we have, in a great many cases, improved our health by rising early and by taking advantage of the fresh morning air, and we have effected an extraordinary saving of fuel.

The Slave of the Lamp

From the Edison Monthly

Aladdin's Lamp well rubbed, they say,
Could turn the darkness into day.
Build palaces and shift them where
It listed through the desert air:
Yea, if so needed lift the hills aside
Or dim the stars and stem the ocean's tide,
Make jewels rare from sand and humble clay,
And ride its owner 'cross the sky's highway,
Speed messages from zone to zone
Where'er its keeper wished to have them known.
Such magic this beguiled our boyhood dreams,
Yet simple now the genii's labor seems:
We do all these, the well rubbed lamp we know
Is but the purring, whirring dynamo,
Whose current flowing as its owner wills
Can set aside the bulk of earthen hills,
Light up the night and send the stars away,
Replace the moonbeams with the glow of day,
Concoct new jewels in the hot retort
And guide the wandering vessel to its port.
No task too great or small of all we show
To daunt the stirring, turning dynamo!

DON C. SEITZ.

BURDENS

From the book of poems entitled, "In Praise of War," by Don. C. Seitz.

The man cried to the Heavens:
"I am sick of my burdens!"
The kind gods replied:
"We will free you."
Then fell from his shoulders
The wearisome. chafing loads.
Freed, he leapt forth, exulting and prancing.
And cried again to the Heavens:
"Give me something to lift!"

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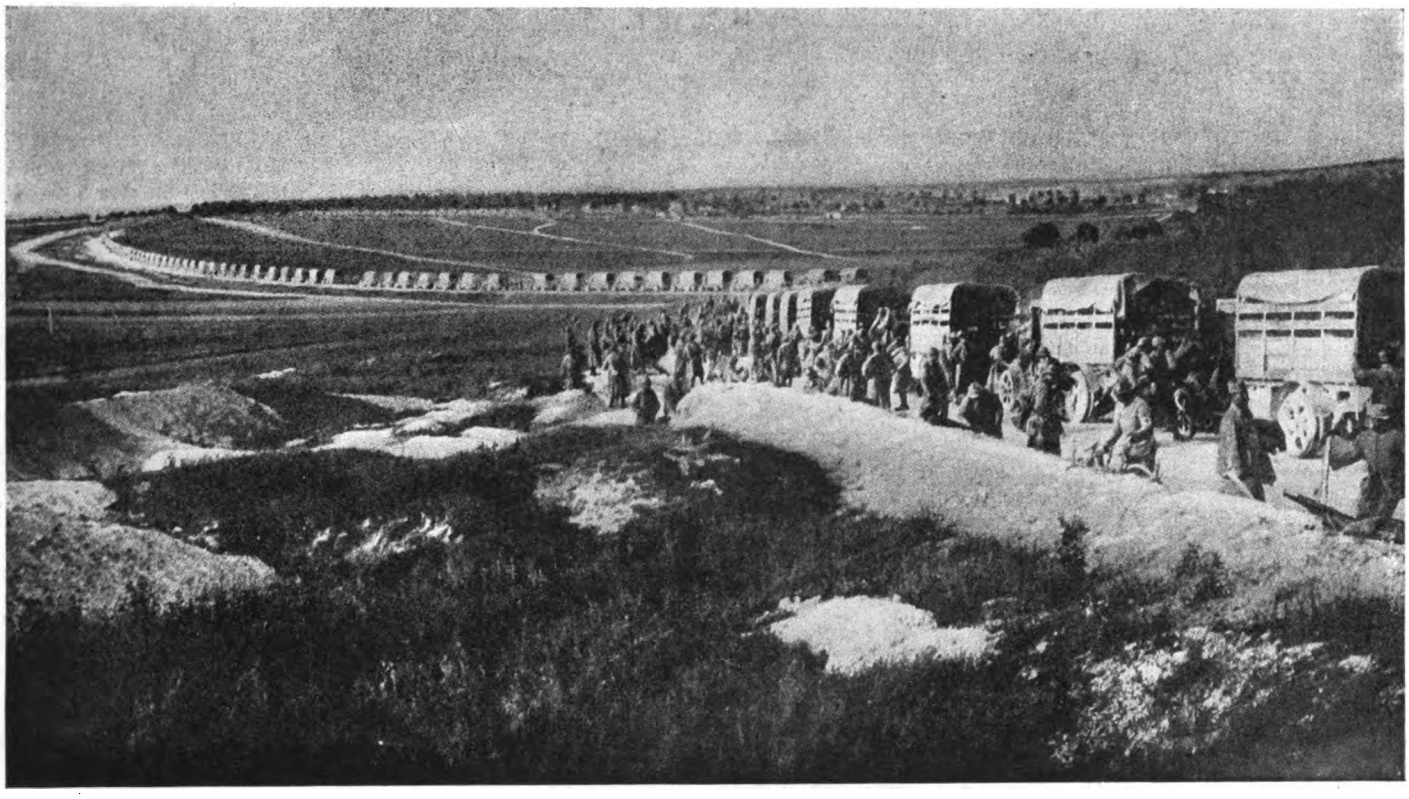

SUPPLIES FOR THE FRONT
The apparently endless line of motor camions is carrying enormous quantities of food, supplies, and ammunition to the soldiers in the front lines. Armies have failed many times, history records, because provisions could not be transported from the large bases, or were tardy in arriving, but this form of supply train can always be counted on. It is our duty to provide the provisions.

Food and Fitness

"I NEVER saw you looking so well!"

The speaker stared admiringly at his khaki-clad friend, who seemed to have grown in every direction since he had left the office. "How do you do it?" he asked.

"I don't know. Right kind of living, I guess. The funny thing is, that the life seems to affect all of us differently. There's Joe, for instance. He wore eye-glasses all his life, until a few weeks after going to camp. Now he doesn't need them at all. Jim Martin,—you know Jim, don't you? He's filled out so that his own mother wouldn't know him. No wonder they say soldiers are good-looking. They look healthy, that's what it is.

"The queer part of it is, that we could have done the same thing home, if we had only realized what a lot of good would come of it."

"Nonsense; how could you?"

"I tell you, it's no nonsense. The trouble is that when we were home, we never knew enough to go to bed at a reasonable time. It was late to bed and early to rise. I've decided that what is needed is regularity. This thing of staying up half of one night, and trying to make it up the next two, is pretty poor. At camp our lives are regulated like clockwork.

"Then, too, there are the 'eats,'" he continued, warming to his subject. "Why, you know as well as I do that we fellows in the office paid no attention to our food. The way in which we treated our stomachs was nothing short of criminal."

"How do you make that out?"

"Well, in the first place, what do you eat for lunch? If it's anything like what I lunched on before going into the army, I feel sorry for you. The joke of it is, that for a week or two after enlisting, I couldn't bear the food they handed out to us. Stews! Ye Gods, how I hated them. At home, I never would eat one, and yet that was what they set before us, and that was what we had to eat. And no desserts! If you had a slab of pie and a glass of milk, as I did when a civilian, you'd miss it, I can tell you. What do you eat for lunch?

"Pie? Milk? A Sandwich? I thought so. Just like all the rest of us. Use no common sense. The wonder to me is that we are not all sick. I feel now, as never before, that one of the most important things a nation can do is to teach every individual in it how to live properly."

"Food Is Mighty"

And how true are his words. Here we are, talking about safeguarding the health of our soldiers and sailors. We have lowered the number of deaths from disease to 8 per thousand, whereas the lowest record up to this time was that held by Japan, who was lauded all over the world for bringing it down to 20 per thousand! And the vast bulk of the American people as a whole,—so important a factor,—is practically neglected.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson, whose name is familiar to all as an expert in the science of correct eating, tells us, "Food is mighty and will prevail! Ideal fuel alone would certainly raise the average efficiency 30 per cent. in most workers."

There is scarcely anyone who would not be glad to improve his physical condition, could he see his way clear to doing so. The trouble is that doctors disagree, and our time is at a premium. We Americans are in a continual rush, from early in the morning, when we jump out of bed, dress in haste, and swallow a cup of coffee and a bun, to the evening, when we (many of us at least), start home on a tiresome ride, feeling listless and jaded after a long day of business.

But, that same weariness is a nervous rather than a physical exhaustion. We feel more tired than we really are. Have you ever noticed that after you get home, wash up, and

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Hot soup for soldiers being carried up to the front line trenches, "shells or no shells"

eat your dinner, you feel like a new person? Then the chances are that you go out to the theatre or some place of amusement, where you are indoors for a few more hours, and return home a second time, feeling almost too tired to sleep.

Life Waste in Peace

An unnatural day, with, as a rule, only one sufficient meal, and no exercise whatever, is it not? Although we are supposed to be an active nation, we seldom grasp an opportunity to walk a half a mile or so, but jump on a car, even though we are not in a hurry to get somewhere. And this, in spite of the fact that we are told that the average person needs to walk four miles per day!

Life to-day is a complicated affair, where we are called upon to do less and less manual labor. This is the case especially in our industrial plants, where complicated machinery has taken the place of muscular effort. The result is that many scientists and doctors affirm that our nation is becoming weaker physically as "progress" becomes greater. "Workers break down prematurely," Elmer E. Rittenhouse, President of the Life Extension Institute, says. "The life waste in war, enormous as it is, is almost trifling compared to the life waste in peace from ignorance and neglect of ordinary preventive measures."

If this is so, it is the duty of each one of us to appoint himself as committee of one to safeguard his health. What with wheatless and meatless days, we are constantly being called upon to give more attention to our food. Never was there a better time to start regulating our diet. For years we have been hearing that we Americans ate too much beef. Because it was easy to prepare, comparatively cheap, and tasty, we paid no attention to the admonitions of food experts.

Now is the time to substitute green vegetables in season, fruits, fish, milk, eggs, and cereals of all kinds for the national *piece de resistance*. Read what happened to our extinct friend, the Tyrannosaurus, because he did not know how to regulate his diet, and beware!

Tyrannosaurus

The huge tyrannosaurus, mammoth example of the cretaceous dinosaur, known as king of the flesh eaters, a specimen measuring 47 feet in length and 18½ in height.—*Scientific article.*

It was a fierce tyrannosaur
That roamed the wilds primeval,
Through fen and marsh—his manners harsh,
His ways were grim and evil.

He weighed more'n forty-'leven tons
His length was fifty feet;
The space inside was very wide,
With room for lots of meat.

He cried, "Alas! I cannot get
Enough to fill me fully!
For brontosaurs are growing scarce,
Though when one's caught it's bully."

He lunched on nine iguanodons,
Each weighing several tons;
For game he'd pterodactyls (tame)
Served up on toasted buns.

But never, never could he fill
The cavity inside.
The cost of living's much too high—
So he laid down and died.

The moral of his horrid fate
By no one should be blinked.
He craved to eat far too much meat,
So he became extinct.

H. W.

DOWN ON THE FARM

A nation's stamina depends on the abundance and value of its food supply. Never was it so necessary as it is now for our crops to be plentiful, and for the city and country to join hands in making them so. Several nights each week and on Saturday afternoons, this "Syracuse War Garden Gang," including members of the plant, traffic and commercial departments, and the Western Electric Company, were busy with the hoe, working on their eight acres of war garden

AMERICA'S LIBERTY LOANS

First Liberty Loan, June, 1917

Amount asked	$2,000,000,000
Amount subscribed	3,035,226,850
Amount accepted	2,000,000,000
Number of subscribers	4,500,000

Second Liberty Loan, November, 1917

Amount asked	$3,000,000,000
Amount subscribed	4,617,532,300
Amount accepted	3,808,766,150
Number of subscribers	9,400,000

Third Liberty Loan, April, 1918

Amount asked	$3,000,000,000
Amount subscribed (Full amount accepted.)	4,176,516,850
Number of subscribers	17,000,000

Summary

Amount asked	$8,000,000,000
Amount subscribed	11,829,276,000
Amount accepted	9,985,283,006
Number of subscribers	30,900,000

The campaign for the Fourth Liberty Loan began September 28, 1918, and closes October 19.

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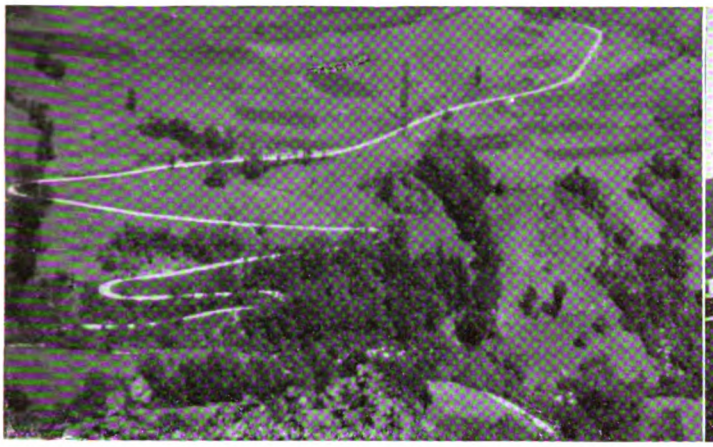

A winding road we coasted down on bicycles,—21 miles from top of Mount Renard to Aix les Bains, via Chambery.—Duffy

Picture taken from observation tower on Mount Renard. Mount Blanc in the distance, but its snow-covered peaks are indistinct against the blue sky

In the Service

Telephone Men in France Are Spelling Out Victory by Their Splendid Work There

THEY say that people are interested primarily in the things about which they are well informed. This seems to be the case with the telephone men in France, most of whom never fail to comment on the differences in the construction of the French and the American telephone systems. Sometimes, as in the following letter, we learn of the war switchboards improvised hurriedly for war needs. As in the work at home, the personal element comes to the top, making the task alive and interesting, for when the leader is enthusiastic, the men working with him are likewise. One of the men writes:

Horseshoer Bill Gerisch (We have no horses) P. J. Duffy Somewhere in France

A TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

The exchange is in a hut. We have two 100 line switchboards, self restoring drops. We also have a main frame, and an interrupter.

In the operating room we have three tables, one for the Lieutenant, one for the chief operator, and one for the clerk. Jimmie Bogue is our wire chief, and John Venners is our chief lineman. He is assisted by Privates Reilly and Brown. Venners and his gang do all the outside work and Bogue takes care of the inside. LaRoe of Company D and I were detached from the company to operate these switchboards, and we have been operating three weeks. It is quite a job to get the French Central to understand us, but in the long run we succeed.

The operators work six hours a day, four shifts. The morning and afternoon shift keeps us more than busy. I think in the near future we shall put in a third position, as new lines are being put in every day.

It sure does sound good to hear the voices of our girl operators.

We have our own electricity which we get from storage batteries, charged by a gasoline engine of which Wire Chief Bogue is chief engineer.

This exchange has developed from one trunk line and two extensions to the above, due largely to the efforts of Jimmy Bogue, who works nights as well as days.

A Big District

JACK FORESMAN, ONCE IN THE MANHATTAN-BRONX PLANT DEPARTMENT, TELLS OF HIS WORK AND HIS UP-TO-DATE TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE

France.

DEAR FRIEND FRED:

We have started up the line and you folks at home want to watch closely the advances our boys will make.

Peter J. Duffy and the old French couple who have been so kind

Bugler Duffy "just posing" on Lake Bourget

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Where American wires are given a special right of way in France
Approved by Committee on Public Information

Pole line in France constructed by British Telegraph Battalion.
Tying in line

The tales I hear would make one's hair stand on end. They go into it as if it was some sort of a sport, and if they cannot make a first, a second is just as good, although they may be out of the game for a few days.

Our end of the game is certainly catching h——l. I have patrols out in my territory all the time and you can bet they have their eyes open for all cases of trouble.

I now have about ten men covering everything in the district. Nash is maintainance and toll test man. Our twenty line Toll Board is a big help in locating troubles, and it is working mostly all day. My district covers about sixty kilometers (37½ miles), which is a trifle larger than Chelsea, don't you think?

Bolt is still with the company and has charge of small jobs that come up. I had him down with me for ten days repairing the line,—pulling up slack wire and guys.

We surely have an up-to-date telegraph and telephone office. To make it complete, the girl operators should be here. I have been promised them, but one can hardly depend on promises. The office was painted a few days ago and it looks so good that I will try to have a photo taken of it to send to the REVIEW.

We are having wonderful weather over here at present. A trip in the country is worth while taking. We often cover the line through the most beautiful sections I have ever seen, and I have seen many. The vineyards are a sight to see. It would put you in mind of California to see the stretch of land just covered with grapes.

I have ridden over to Desmarais' place a few times and the town he is at dates back to Caesar's time. There is quite a history to the place, but it is impossible to mention any place in our letters.

Line Work in France

ALMOST daily reports come in from General Pershing, commending the splendid work, faithfulness, and devotion to duty shown by the men entrusted with keeping the communications of our army open. Their work is not showy, and they seek no praise. All they realize is that if the lines are cut, they must be replaced at any cost, lest disaster to hundreds and thousands follow.

One cannot overestimate the bravery of these men who go out under fire, without shelter of any kind, and stay out in exposed positions until communications are restored. If one man is killed or wounded before the task is done, another springs after him to complete it. There is no such phrase as "give-up" in their vocabulary, no thought of self in their minds.

J. C. Kavanagh, Long Island Division, says that he has just finished his second trick in the line, and has come to the conclusion that "this is no toy war." He adds:

I was sent out one night to repair a line from our headquarters to the front line while the fighting was pretty heavy, and felt a sensation something like going downward in a fast elevator. The line had to be fixed where a few shells had torn off a couple of yards.

I was scheduled to be an operator, but I like the line work so much better that I was transferred to the cable section. All I did the first few weeks was to bury cables. I think that by the time this letter reaches you, we'll have half of France dug up.

We are feeling pretty well now, but the boys don't consider carrying full pack and getting bitten to death by cooties any picnic. We are doing our best to make a quick finish and get back to civilization before next year.

J. C. KAVANAGH.

FROM SERGEANT THOMAS A. O'DONNELL, 61ST INFANTRY, FORMERLY IN THE MANHATTAN-BRONX-WESTCHESTER DIVISION

We are quite close to Fritz's lines, but we rarely see him at this sector, as he keeps pretty close to the ground in his trench. This may be due to the reputation the American boy has of being a good shot with the rifle. And then again, it may be that Fritz has had enough of this warfare and wishes to sleep on, as things are going very badly for him these days.

As I write there is an enemy aeroplane overhead, and our lines are shooting at it with anti-aircraft guns and machine guns. There are also some nice winged shells that sing as they pass overhead. They are not doing much damage though, aside from throwing up the earth.

The morale of the troops here is excellent, and all are imbued with that winning spirit that cannot be downed.

I see by the papers that the news of the recent victories of the Allies has surely stirred New York. I guess the Kaiser must now realize that he bit off more than he could chew. The War Lord of Europe has about run his last race.

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Telephone Operators, When Off Duty, Enjoy Themselves by Holding Dances, Garden Parties, and "Community Sings"

By Maud Truesdale

Colonial School,—and the last picture of this school that will appear, as the girls move from it October 1

A STORY is told of women war-workers in one of the English munition plants who went on with their work during an air-raid when a shell burst at one end of the factory and killed several persons.

It may not be desirable to acquire such stoicism, but the story proves that the emotional hysteria that characterized the first phases of the war is past, and women in a mistaken spirit of patriotism are no longer rushing into work for which they are unfitted, either mentally or physically. A transient glamour is still attached to wearing a uniform, but women have come to realize that the uniform is only the badge of certain kinds of service. With it goes work, and still more work, as the number of men sent to the battlefields of France increases.

To-day you must win your place in the limelight. The big parade that stirs your patriotic fervor is but a symbol of the task before you. Back of it are the leaders upon whom rests the responsibility of winning the war, and back of them in the daily round of duty which often grows monotonous is the great mass of patriotic citizens, men and women doing their bit in the home trenches.

Many women are ably filling positions of responsibility, but most of us must be content to be "hewers of wood and drawers of water" in the great industrial world.

The Real Test

The telephone has often been called the nervous system of the country. The rapidity with which our troops are being sent across the water,—250,000 per month according to a recent report,—is dependent in a large measure upon the efficiency of the telephone system, and telephone girls in all parts of the United States are proud of their privilege as war workers, for they are giving just as necessary service to the boys on the other side as the Red Cross nurse or woman who drives an ambulance near the firing line.

But, like their sisters "over there," their value depends on their ability to "stick" to their job. In Washington after the first excitement of coming has died out, after the novelty of living in close companionship with their fellow-workers has worn off, when they have seen all of the "sights" of the Capital City, and have listened to a spirited debate in Congress, when even standing on the curb to see the President enter his car has ceased to be interesting, then comes the real test of the patriotism of our "out-of-town" operators.

It is the girl who accepts the humdrum side of her task,—the every-day routine which belongs to all work well done, and gets her thrill in feeling that she is literally one of the voices behind the great guns in France with which our boys are bound to win the war, at home or in Washington, that is the good soldier of the switchboard.

Meanwhile, we are not forgetting that while all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, it makes Jill a homesick girl. Once a week is "at home" night in each house. During the early part of the summer we only tried to live up to our childish idea that for a real party there must be ice cream.

Dances and Garden Parties

On August 20 the Belcourt inaugurated an interesting form of entertainment by giving a garden party. The grounds were prettily decorated with Chinese lanterns; an orchestra on the vine-covered veranda furnished music for dancing in the dining-room

Group indoors after Lawn Party at Washington College

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and enjoyment for those who preferred to sit in groups in the garden. Between the numbers these groups sang to the music of guitar and banjo played by some of the guests.

A feature of the evening was the half-hour "sing" out of doors, conducted by a song leader from the War Camp Community. The sailor and soldier guests joined with a zest in every patriotic or humorous song, demonstrating that it will not be their fault if a singing army does not fight the best. This community singing proved so popular that it has become a feature of each succeeding party, and the War Camp Community Service is ready to furnish song leaders.

Standing on the veranda in the faint glow of the colored lanterns, Miss Juliette Pierrard, of Pittsburgh, sang the *Marseillaise* in French with splendid effect. As usual, we closed the singing with the *Star-Spangled Banner*. A grand march around the grounds brought the merry groups back into the house for refreshments, (strictly according to Mr. Hoover).

Fairmont followed with a dance. The girls spent several evenings making wonderful crêpe paper lanterns to hang over the electric light bowls,—pink in the ballroom and orange in the library, where they made an artistic contrast with the old blue and dark oak. Chinese lanterns were hung over the lights in the other rooms, and two rows of lanterns marked the approach of the house, magically lending an oriental aspect.

In addition to the community singing, Miss Hazel Coker, of Woodlawn, L. I., and Miss Ethel Howell, of Newark, N. J., contributed songs to the program. Miss Martha Klaus, of New York City, came over from Washington College and in draperies of soft green chiffon gave an exquisite rhythmic dance. Mr. Foster, one of the guests, convulsed the audience with a vaudeville song and dance, and Mr. German, a soldier boy, called off a spirited Paul Jones.

The group at the "Bristol" entertainment

The girls in Vermont and L., which is our "Family House," having only about 30 girls, chose the occasion of their party to present a large American flag which they had purchased. Two soldiers, Mr. Corson and Mr. Wallace, unfurled it while the girls stood in a circle and repeated:

I pledge allegiance to the American flag and to the Republic for which it stands; one Nation indivisable, with Lberty and Justice for all.

The little ceremony gave a touch of solemnity to the occasion, and the subsequent singing of the *Star-Spangled Banner* rang out with a will.

The Colonial Dance was characteristic of the spirit of cordiality of that house, where chaperons and girls from New York State make welcome the boys from their home towns who are serving Uncle Sam. The drawing room was decorated with golden rod gathered by the girls, while the great domed hall in which they danced was appropriately hung with huge flags of the Allies, kindly loaned by Mr. Charles Lee Cook, Third Asistant Secretary of State.

"Vermont and L" and their flag

Patriotism Galore!

Two more garden parties completed the list for the month. The Bristol and Washington College, each housing about 200 girls, are fortunate in having beautiful grounds where the many colored lanterns made the scene a magnified fairy-land. At the Bristol, the refreshments were served by the committee from a small pavilion erected in the garden. They were distinguished by gaily trimmed paper hats. The community singing took place in the large gymnasium where later in the season we expect to have some spirited basketball games. Between the dances a short program was given by Mr. Foster, who repeated for the guests of the Bristol his humorous songs and dances. Miss Edith Todd, of Astoria, L. I., sang delightfully, and Miss Mary McNamara, of Brooklyn, recited. Patriotism was expressed in the decorations, the walls being covered with small American flags and festoons of red, white, and blue paper, and the large multicolored flags of the Allies reminded us that nearly the whole civilized world was in arms against Germany.

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The unique feature of the party at Washington College was a wonderful grand march led by one of the chaperons, which combined a semi-military drill with some of the familiar figures. At a signal from the leader, the music stopped with the dancers as they stood forming the letters U. S. Mr. Foster, whose good nature seems unlimited, added his laugh-provoking specialty to the program. As befitted the old Gales Mansion which once entertained Lafayette, the College dining-room where we danced was decorated in red, white and blue of the sister republics, France and the United States. From the pillared veranda one looked over the few miles of country to where the lights of Camp Meigs shone small beacons which reminded you that these parties enjoyed with so much enthusiasm are but incidents of light relief in the larger field of duty where each one is trying to fill her small place without faltering.

The parties have given the girls the chance to express themselves in planning the details and decorating their homes. One pleasure has been the privilege of inviting their friends. In every case the entertainment committees have proved most able aides to the chaperons, who have acted as hostesses. Officials of the company are always most welcome guests and have attended every party. Many of the chaperons from other houses have been glad to avail themselves of the invitations, and the recreation supervisors have enjoyed the spirit of real fun that has characterized each entertainment. A few of the chief operators have appreciated this chance to know the girls in an unofficial capacity.

There have been a number of excursions and picnics to Great Falls, Chesapeake Beach, Rock Creek Park, and the Y. W. C. A. Country Club. Many groups of girls have visited the Congressional Library, the Monument, and the Capitol, where some of us heard the exciting debate on the Man-Power bill. Everyone is to have a chance to visit the points of interest in and about Washington. Mount Vernon and Arlington are at their best in September and October, as well as the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains.

The swimming pool at Bristol School is to be opened soon and a competent physical instructor is in charge of the gymnasium. Tennis and basketball courts are being made ready at Belcourt, Bristol, and Washington College for the cooler weather of the fall.

An innovation is our Sunday night "sing" with a War Camp Community leader. At Bristol recently a moving picture machine was tried out with a view to purchasing it for the use of all houses.

One Sunday in September this choice bit of doggerel appeared on the bulletin boards signed in each case by a recreation supervisor:

"If Sunday's rather slow
And you don't know where to go,
And there's nothing much to do,
Come with me and see the Zoo."

And many accepted the invitation and went.

One lesson that we have all learned from the war is the necessity of wholesome recreation if we are to be 100 per cent. efficient.

A Telephone Pole to the Rescue

By A. B. Cranmer, Wire Chief's Supervisor, Paterson, Jersey City & Staten Island Districts

"CLIMBING a telephone pole" with an automobile is quite a well known sport, but in an accident on the Newark-Pompton Turnpike and the Morris Canal at Mountainview, New Jersey, the tables were turned, and a junction telephone pole prevented serious damage to a large lumber truck and perhaps fatal injuries to the occupants. About noon of August 9, a truck loaded with about ten tons of yellow pine boards *en route* to the Haskell School House, Haskell, New Jersey, was unable to make the very steep grade on the turnpike in Mountain View. The driver not only could not reach the top of the hill, but he found that the brakes on the truck would not hold the load, and he was compelled to back into the large telephone pole at the side of the road. This pole held the truck, although with the crash it broke off six feet from the butt, and prevented the truck from skieing backwards down a steep embankment in what would probably have been a fatal accident for the drivers of the car.

"Trouble on trunks to Pompton Lakes" was discovered at 12:40 noon by the Traffic Department at Paterson which reported the difficulty to the Paterson Wire Chief. A test was immediately made and it was discovered that all trunks on the Mountainview-Butler and the Paterson-Boonton trunk lines were open and grounded.

Pole No. 975, Mountainview, N. J., struck by a lumber truck

Repairman Frank DeLade was promptly detailed to cover this line, and with the assistance of Repairman Buttel from the Boonton Exchange, who had been sent from that office to the scene of the trouble, immediately cleared up the open wire lying in the road which was interfering with traffic. This done, they proceeded to use all the twisted pair wire they had with them and in about an hour had restored three trunks to Boonton and eight trunks to Pompton Lakes.

District Supervising Foreman James O'Brien was advised that the trunks from Oakland to Paterson were in trouble. He reached the scene of the break about the same time as the Wire Chief's force. Mr. O'Brien arranged immediately to dispatch construction gangs, which arrived shortly afterwards, and by using about 16,000 feet of twisted pair, restored service temporarily on all trunks except the phantom circuits at about 9:00 P. M. Construction forces also placed a tackle on the lumber truck and moved it out of the way, in order to place a new pole in the same location as the old one.

It was a 45-foot pole, equipped with cross-arms, 1 phantom box, 15 lines involving 98 subscribers' stations, and a total of 48 trunks; 25 local trunks; 13 Jersey toll trunks, and 10 Newark toll trunks.

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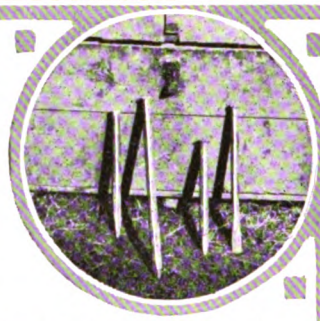
Conserving Man Power

1. "Now, all together,—pull!" said they, grasping the telephone pole with their cant hooks. Their intentions were good, but the unexpected happened

2. With a lurch the huge, uneven pole suddenly rolled over, flinging them against the curb, and crushing them under it

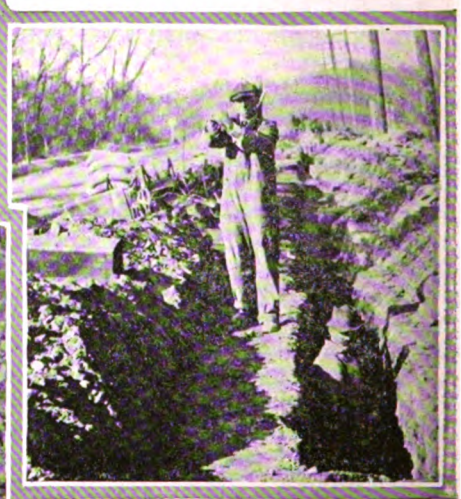
3. Next time they preferred to get behind and push, deciding that there was but one way to deal with a crooked pole



4. Many a man has "hit the drill on the thumb" because he didn't bother having it repaired or replaced when the head became nicked or mushroomed. There is always the danger, too, that chips may fly from the head and cut hand or face, or perhaps seriously injure an eye

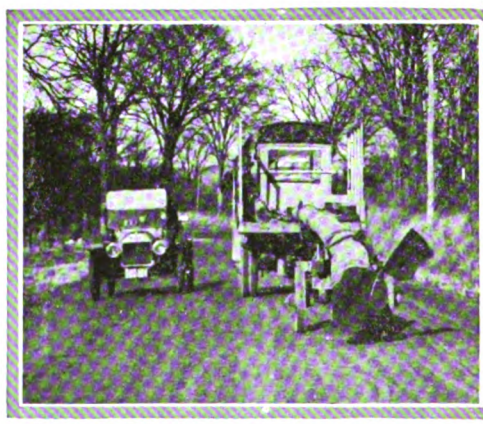
5. Though there are two sides to every trench, only one is to be used for promenading, especially when one carries a load of tools

6. Of course, anyone may walk on the wrong side if he cares to do so, but he is apt to find himself and his tools at the bottom of the trench when he "comes to"



7. After which, he will realize that discretion is the better part of valor in such a case

"An Ounce of Prevention Is Better Than a Pound of Cure!"



8. It is all very well to go sailing down a road with a nice little red flag tied to the end of the pole you are trailing, feeling that it isn't such a bad old world after all, and entirely forgetting that trailers have very bad habits when they are not watched. . . .

9. But when the trailer swings over into someone's brand new Ford, which is depending on you to obey the rules of the road, you find that the little red flag cannot do everything

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Hazards in Installation Work

By J. F. Naylon

IT IS perhaps true that installers are less exposed to danger from accidents than other employees of our outside forces, but a review of the possibilities indicates that unless installers are constantly on their guard and keep in mind that they must use every possible precaution to protect themselves, even they may be injured more or less seriously.

The use of borrowed ladders is perhaps one of the most serious elements of danger in installation work. If an installer does not proceed with his work until he finds a perfectly safe ladder to use on the job, he may be obliged to scour the neighborhood indefinitely, with the result that the job is seriously delayed.

It is a fact that installers are frequently forced to use ladders that are in poor condition, but they should take the precaution to make them reasonably safe before using them. A nail or two in the right place will often make an otherwise unsafe ladder perfectly safe to use. The use of makeshift boxes, barrels, et cetera, in place of ladders should be avoided where it is possible. When an installer is forced to use a substitute for a ladder, he should be certain that it is in such condition and so placed that he will not invite an accident and then put it up to his "tough" luck if he is hurt.

Slipping on icy roofs or pavements is a constant source of danger to installers in winter. It would be a rash mind indeed that would classify all accidents of this kind as preventable, but surely some of them are preventable if reasonable care is used.

The use of tools that are not in perfect condition is a menace to the safety of installers. There is no excuse for an installer's using a drill handle with a mushroomed head, a hammer with one or more chips out of the head, a screw-driver with rounded or broken corners, or any other tool in an imperfect condition. Tools of this description should be replaced at once.

Mind Your Spurs!

The danger of accidents to installers who climb with spurs, due to spurs cutting out, is always present. The very fact that the danger is always present should make the employee careful, which he surely will be if he thinks about the matter at all. If the same care is used in climbing and in descending poles that is used in crossing a street where the automobile traffic is heavy, there will be few accidents due to spurs cutting out.

It is not always the "green" climber whose spurs cut out. He is more likely to "watch his step" than the man in whom familiarity breeds contempt of danger.

Probably one of the most serious sources of danger to installers is the rusty nail which lies in wait with point up for the installer to step on it. No rule or instruction can be made that would help an employee to avoid accidents of this kind.

The only way that he may avoid them is to be constantly on the alert, particularly when obliged to work in dark cellars or basements, and cellars in which rubbish may be lying about.

In addition to the foregoing, installers are constantly exposed to danger from tools slipping, tools or material falling, slipping or falling on stairs, collapse of staging or platforms, strains from lifting heavy articles, and many other sources, all of which go to show that unless the employees are thoughtful and careful of their safety, they may be injured.

A review of accidents to installers while off duty, indicates that they are not free from danger the moment they quit the job, and that they should consider their safety when off duty, as well as when at work.

Off Duty, Too!

It is interesting to know what some of the sources of accident to employees off duty are, and they are mentioned with the idea that they may serve to put everyone on his guard so that similar accidents may be avoided so far as possible. A number of typical cases follow:

Bruised arm and legs when motorcycle collided with an auto

Contusions of elbow when arm caught in door of trolley car

Ragged cut in palm of hand when loading boiler on car

Sprained back slipping off hay rick

Bruised legs when motorcycle collided with trolley car.

Crushed finger between bowling balls

Turned ankle on stairway

Hip, shoulders, and elbow bruised when hit by trolley car

Hands injured in fall from trolley car

Cut over eye, bruised legs and shoulder in automobile collision

Burned over eye in opening bottle of cresoline.

Burned fingers when cold chisel slipped

Poisoned by ivy when bathing

Two cases are included in accidents to installers off duty, which are interesting, not because they have any bearing on accident prevention among installers generally, but because they show that no matter what a man is doing he is liable to injury unless he is careful.

The nature of these accidents is such that they probably will not be of frequent occurrence.

While an installer was milking a cow, the cow kicked and broke a small bone in the installer's wrist. While it does not so state in the accident report, it seems probable that the installer was careless in not milking the cow on the side that would be agreeable to her.

Another installer was feeding his pigs, when, as he put it, "one of them threw a fit." The installer picked the pig up in his arms, and while carrying it to another pen, tripped and fell, and cut his right hand severely on a broken bottle that was hidden in the grass. The accident report did not state what happened to the pig. The lesson to be learned from this case is that when it is necessary to pick up a pig that has "thrown a fit," watch out for broken bottles.

A sound piece of advice to the installer is, *"Make Safety a Part of Your Every-day Work."*

Corporal Sterker a Hero

FOR saving the life of a companion, who was drowning, George L. Sterker, formerly in the Manhattan-Bronx plant department, received the following commendation from Major General O'Ryan:

Headquarters, Twenty-seventh Division,
United States Army,
June 11, 1918.

FROM COMMANDING GENERAL TO CORPORAL GEORGE L. STERKER, CO. D, 102D ENGINEERS. SUBJECT: SAVING SOLDIER'S LIFE.

1. Upon reports received from your company and Regimental Commanders it appears that you, in company with Bugler John J. Radigan of your command, saved from drowning a soldier who was seized with cramps while swimming in the bay at St. Nazaire, France, on June 2, 1918. The reports show that the soldier was seen struggling in the water and that you and companion, without waiting to remove your clothing, promptly entered the water and brought the man in, unconscious, and later succeeded in restoring him to consciousness.

2. It gives me pleasure to record and acknowledge the prompt and efficient action on the part of two soldiers of this Division whereby the life of another soldier was saved, and I commend you for your action.

JOHN F. O'RYAN, Major General.

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SIXTH UNIT SHARES IN TELEPHONE WORK IN FRANCE
Telephone Operators Doing Overseas Service in France "Plug In" for Victory

Left to Right—Back Row: (1) Miss Ellen Disbrowe, 7½ years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (2) Mrs. Mary Steele, 2 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (3) Miss Jane E. Conroy, 9 years, Bell Tel. of Penn.; (4) Miss Elizabeth Anne Brown, 3 years, Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co.; (5) Miss Anna M. Ostrander, 4 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (6) Miss Mabel Lapp, 4½ years, Chicago Tel. Co.; (7) Miss Anna Campbell, 9 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.; (8) Miss Louise Gordon, 15 years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (9) Miss Helma Greenlund, 8 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (10) Miss Corah Bartlett, 9½ years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (11) Miss M. Beryl Broderick, trained at Scranton, Pa., and Detroit; (12) Miss Lydia E. Erickson, 12 years, Chicago Tel. Co.; (13) Miss Rosemary de Montauzan, trained at Trenton, N. J.; (14) Miss Abbie Mitchell, 7 years, N. E. Tel & Tel. Co.; (15) Miss Agnes Houley, 8 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (16) Miss Helen Bixby, trained at Chicago and Camp Dix, N. J.; (17) Miss Hazel Hammond, 7 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.; (18) Miss Anna Swanson, 7 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.

Left to Right—Front Row: (1) Miss Delta Hagan, 4 years, Northwestern Tel. Exchange Co.; (2) Miss Eliz. Horsman, 15 years, Chicago Tel. Co.; (3) Miss Maude Johnson, 4 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (4) Miss Margaret Olker, 9 years, Northwestern Tel. & Tel. Co.; (5) Miss Mary Story, trained at San Francisco and New Haven; (6) Miss Frances Laney, trained at San Francisco and New Haven; (7) Miss Isabelle Macdonald, 2½ years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (8) Miss Oleda Joure, 3½ years, Michigan State Tel. Co.; (9) Miss Marion C. Swan, 12 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (10) Miss Mae Ganley, 3 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (11) Miss Hortense Levy, trained at Trenton, N. J. (12) Miss Elsie Wolloff, 7 years, N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.; (13) Miss Bernadette Doucette, 5 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (14) Miss Minnie Goldman, trained at Chicago and Camp Dix, N. J.; (15) Miss Ruth Boucher, 3 years, Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co.; (16) Miss Stella Russell, 8 years, Nebraska Tel. Co.; (17) Miss Celia Grimeke, 12 years, Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.

U.S. Telephone Operators in France Share Glory of American Drive

Sixth Unit Has Now Arrived

IN a special cable dispatch to *The Sun* from the London *Times* Service, word is conveyed to us of the "workings" of our initial drive for Germany. Although the Germans suspected the attack, it says, they were completely surprised at its force and concentration, which were due in large part to the perfect communication system which the American army had built up and was trying out for the first time. It was possible, through this system and through the excellent and faithful work of the operators, for the army to move forward with precision and unity. Corps and headquarters were able to get constantly in touch with each other by telephone as easily as two business men talking in New York.

To quote, "These women (the American operators) . . . are plugging their calls now as never before, and are plugging them to save American lives."

Our operators have made good, as everyone knew they would. What was the mainstay of our army in this, its first big blow, was, strangely enough, what disintegrated the German troops and destroyed their morale. In a communication from the American Army Headquarters on the Lorraine front to the *Times*, we learn that faulty liaison work left enemy units cut off from Headquarters and each other in a great many cases. The cable adds:

We have now heard the tale from prisoners of division calling to division in vain for aid, little knowing that the source from which it sought help was in even more desperate straits.

Where the German troops were willing to fight,—which was not everywhere,—they were frequently left in such sad case by faulty liaison work that they had no option but to surrender.

Such news must be thrilling to the girls in the sixth unit, just arrived in France to "carry on" the work that their sisters at arms have so ably started.

The unit is composed of twenty-eight experienced long distance operators taken from the forces of the Bell System in various parts of the country, and seven of the French-English speaking operators who have been in training for about eight months, and who have qualified as long distance operators.

Lieutenant William F. Packard, Jr., of the Signal Corps, formerly of the Western Union Telegraph Company, was in command of the unit.

To know that they are to be privileged to perform so vital a task, is a "thrill that comes once in a life-time." The new unit, naturally, is inspired with the same high aims that sent the other five across to share in the fortunes of war, and to give to their country that which they above all others were best fitted to give,—telephone service. To do one's best, to serve with enthusiasm and a true heart,—that is an honor indeed.

Death of Mr. Corrigan

ED. CORRIGAN, as he was affectionately known among his associates, died in Baltimore on September 1, after a lingering illness.

This word reached us at the last minute before going to press, and there is only time for a brief notice of his death, and an expression of the grief and sympathy felt by his friends.

Mr. Corrigan entered the New York Telephone Company in the office of the then General Superintendent, June 21, 1883, as a messenger, and completed thirty-five years of service last June. After having occupied different positions as Central Office and District Traffic Manager, he was made General Superintendent of Traffic of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company with headquarters at Baltimore, on July 1, 1904.

Thus his entire career has been with the Eastern Group of Bell Companies.

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"Holding the Road"

As Told by a Member of the Supply Train, the Arteries of the Army

STANLEY V. COPPINGER, formerly of the Long Island Division, tells of the splendid work of the Supply Train in France, of the hazards taken and the risks run that our men may have food and ammunition with which to fight the Boche. To hear the hum of an enemy motor overhead, and know that any moment a bomb may fall upon you is, in his estimation, not the very pleasantest thing in the world. However, it is all for the great end, and our boys stand ever ready to make any sacrifice in their power for their country.

So vital is the service rendered by these supply trains mentioned in Sergeant Coppinger's letter, that the newspapers frequently comment on their contribution to the victories wrenched from the Germans. Recently the following excerpt appeared in the *Evening Sun*, in a description of the advance made in the Allied drive:

The remarkable transport system of the Allies is enabling them to maintain a constant flow of men and supplies to the front. As the line advances, solid miles of motor trucks carrying ammunition and other material rumble forward. They return to the rear with slightly wounded men.

Men and guns rushed up on trucks are dumped off and are in the thick of the fighting a few minutes later.

Sergeant Coppinger's letter follows:

Somewhere in France.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

I thank you first of all for the regular appearance of my copy of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, which seems to find me out no matter where I go. As I explained to one of the men in your office, I transferred from the Camp Quartermaster at Camp Upton into a Division Supply Train going overseas.

It probably interests you to know that some of us are doing other things in the A. E. F. besides stringing wires and shooting trouble. I have read in the REVIEW from time to time many interesting letters from some of my former telephone comrades and thoroughly enjoyed them. The Signal Corps is well named the nervous system of the Army. But the Army must be fed and clothed; also, clothes and life sustaining victuals must be sped on to the foremost points and delivered along the entire front. This is the work of the Supply Train—the "Arteries" of the Army.

Let me say just a word about the lads who operate the trucks. They must, first of all, be first-class chauffeurs, with nerves of iron, and must naturally be rapid thinkers. Here at the Front work is done mostly at night, and just at dusk one may see emerging from the ruins of some miserable little village, a line of heavy cargo trucks rumbling along the uneven roads. Into the night they move steadily on, always *au front*—now disappearing into a forest, now crossing a hilltop, a silhouette against a darkening sky.

Loading supply trains in France that are to carry food and other necessities to men at the front in France—a dangerous work faithfully performed
Committee on Public Information

The thunder of artillery becomes louder; the night becomes blacker; and still there are no lights, not even the flickering of a cigarette. From time to time the assistant driver jumps off and walks some fifty feet ahead to guide the driver with subdued voice, for the road is lost in the blackness and great shell holes have made it impassable.

It is easier to drive a truck or to pull a ditched motor out in the daylight than in the darkness, but, on the whole, darkness has its comforts. Your truck is almost an invisible speck at night as long as you show no lights.

HURRAH FOR THE TIN HAT

You sure do wish for night, when in the daytime you hear the unmistable humming of a boche motor in the sky and look up and see him apparently coming your way. You just naturally reach out for that "Tin Hat,"—that often abused but oftener blessed schrapnel helmet. "Oh, Boy!" You pull up under the only tree in sight, and wonder if the man "higher up" thinks that you think he cannot see you. It's a horribly helpless sort of feeling, this waiting, perhaps, on the crest of a hill—waiting for the first spiteful rattle of the machine gun, either from the "plane" above or from a trench somewhere in front. Then suddenly, "Boom," from somewhere behind another hill—and from another direction, "Boom"! The air is suddenly filled with echoing reverberations and tiny white puffs break out around the airman. Thank God for the anti-aircraft guns and their gunners. The enemy tips his tail landward and points his machine at the dazzling sun. Off comes the "Tin Hat," the gears grind, and the truck rumbles on.

Some time the luck is the other way and you, perhaps, become a casualty. Someone else will make your trip then, and as you lie in the clean, quiet ward of the Base Hospital you know that your old truck is still (if a shell has not hit it) "holding the road" and "doing its bit"; still plowing its way through deep mud or torn-up roads—still winding its way through the big forest. You know so long as the war shall last the "Arteries" of the Army will perform their functions unfaulteringly and when once more the doctors have pronounced you O. K. you gladly join your old comrades "at the same old game."

Such is the day or night experienced in the life of the Supply Train and it will continue to be such until Fritz is whipped.

Please give my regards to the telephone boys still at home.

S. V. COPPINGER,
Quart'm'r Sergt.,
302d Supply Train.
A. E. F.

Telephone Gardeners' Club Please Notice!

CORPORAL CLAY B. BURBIDGE writes to his friends in the Central Division:

DEAR FRIENDS:

Everything is going well, particularly the boys in the front line (for verification consult any of the high command of God's self-confessed pal and side kick, Wilhelm). I might also add in passing that the money is going well, the French having learned to speak the language of ready cash fluently.

To the inevitable question, "How's the grub?" I answer fine in both quantity and quality, and we expect a noticeable effect in increased ration allowances when the Telephone Gardeners' Club harvests its crop.

Temporarily we are located in a French village. It is far from the noise of the big guns, and the gang is all hoping that the next pole line we will build will be so far forward that we shall have to place anchors in no man's land.

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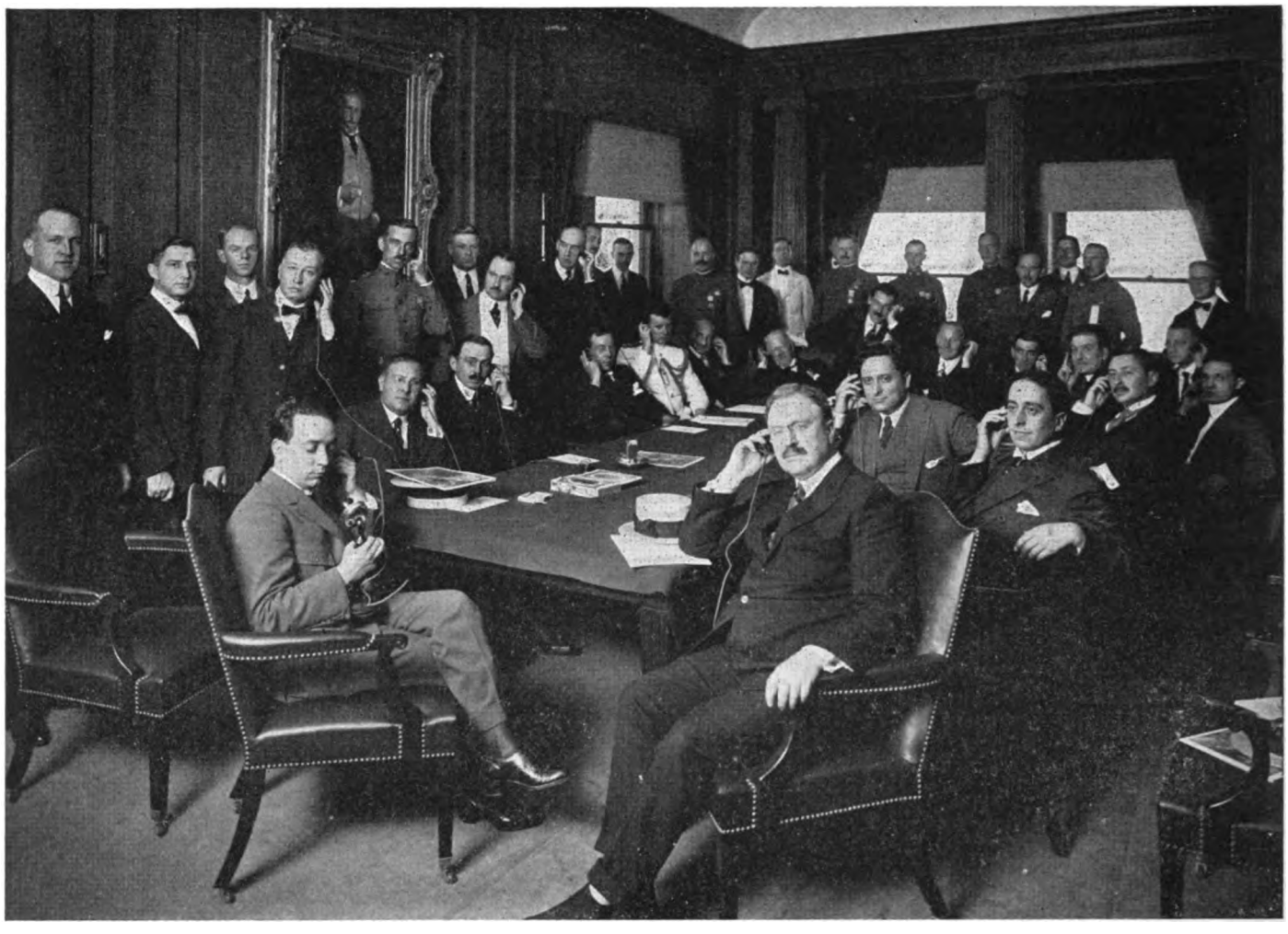

THE URUGUAYAN MISSION GUESTS OF THE BELL SYSTEM
In the Directors' Room, 195 Broadway, New York, August 30, 1918

Dr. Baltasar Brum, Minister for Foreign Affairs and candidate for President of Uruguay, is speaking to Mr. O. M. Goldaracena, Uruguayan Consul General, San Francisco. The other members of the mission, who are present, are: Dr. Cesar Miranda, First Vice-President of the House of Representatives; Dr. Javier Mendivil, a member of the Senate; Dr. Asdrubal Delgado, delegate from the Department of Finance; Dr. Justo José Mendoza, Secretary to the Minister; and Lieutenant Juan Canosa, Uruguayan Navy, Adjutant to the Minister. Representatives of the United States present are: Hon. Jordan H. Stabler, Department of State; Colonel William Kelly, U. S. A.; and Lieutenant Commander Augustin T. Beauregard, U. S. N. His Honor John F. Hylan, Mayor of New York, is seated at Dr. Brum's right. Dr. Haroldo Mezzera, Mr. Julian Nogoeira, with Uruguyan Mission; Col. Rodman Wanamaker, the Mayor's representative, and W. E. Leigh, in charge of the Foreign Department of the Western Electric Company, are among those standing

Bell System Honors Uruguayan Mission

DR. BALTASAR BRUM, Minister of Foreign Relations and candidate for President of Uruguay, was the guest of honor at a transcontinental telephone demonstration arranged by officials of the Western Electric on the 30th of August.

The distinguished visitor came to this country as the head of a special mission from our sister republic, at the invitation of the United States Government, to study business conditions and to further the commercial relations existing between the two nations. The mission has accomplished vastly more than this. The fame of the virile young statesman, and his championship of Pan-Americanism and the cause of the Allies, had preceded him, but the charm and vigor of his personality won the admiration and esteem of his hosts to such a degree that the friendship existing between the two peoples will be greatly strengthened through his visit.

The members of the Uruguayan Mission were received by the President at Washington, and they were the guests of the cities of New York, Boston, Chicago, Pittsburg, St. Louis, and New Orleans; of the Pan-American Society of the United States, of prominent citizens and of commercial organizations, all of whom vied in doing them honor. While in Chicago the mission made a tour of inspection through the Hawthorne plant of the Western Electric Company.

Owing to the limited time at the disposal of the Uruguayan Mission, it was impossible for them to visit the Pacific Coast. The transcontinental telephone line, however, afforded an opportunity for Dr. Brum to speak with the Uruguayan Consul General at San Francisco, Mr. O. M. Goldaracena, and, at the same time, for a demonstration of the unequalled development of the telephone art that has been achieved in this country by the Bell System and the perfection of the apparatus manufactured by the Western Electric Company.

Following a luncheon in New York, given by the Pan-American Society of the United States, the mission, accompanied by Mayor Hylan, members of his official family, and invited guests, were welcomed in the Directors' Room of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, 195 Broadway, by Mr. W. E. Leigh, in charge of the Foreign Department of the International Western Electric Company, and the circuit to San Francisco was put up for their use.

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Dr. Brum was the only one to speak, but most of the others present "listened in" with the watch case receivers which were strung around the director's table for the purpose. A message to San Francisco was conveyed by Dr. Brum through Mr. Goldaracena, as follows:

Haga publicos mis saludos a la ciudad de San Francisco y diga que si yo hubiera tenido tiempo habria ido a vistarla para poder admirar personalmente esa ciudad que es una de las que mejor representan el espiritu progresista americano.

Tambien soy muy feliz en poder comprobar el admirable triunfo que representa esta linea la cual permite hablar a tan larga distancia, y comprendo, igualmente, la importancia excepcional del esfuerzo que ha realizado esta Compañia.

[Make public my greetings to the city of San Francisco and state that, had I time, I would pay it a visit in order for me personally to admire it, a city which well represents the progressive spirit of the American people.

I am also very happy to be able to testify to the remarkable triumph which this telephone line constitutes in that it permits of speaking over such long distance, and I likewise realize the exceptional importance of the work accomplished by this company.]

The electric speaking telephone made its appearance in Uruguay as early as 1880. As of January 1, 1917, there were about 24 telephone companies operating in Montevideo and throughout the republic, with a total development of about 16,860 telephone stations. This gives the republic of Uruguay the highest telephone development of any country in Central or South America, the ratio being 1.22 telephones per 100 of population.

This is only an evidence of the progressiveness of the Uruguayans. In all its internal and foreign affairs Uruguay has kept up with the best thought and practice of modern civilization. It was, therefore, no surprise when this little country far to the south of us declared herself on the side of the Allies, seized the German ships in her harbor of Montevideo, and leased them to our Emergency Fleet Corporation, to be used in commerce between the two countries.

Montevideo is to-day the South American Naval Centre of the Allies.

The Fourth of July was observed throughout Uruguay in connection with the visit of the American Fleet under Admiral Caperton, which aroused the greatest enthusiasm, in 1917, and this year the day was made a national Uruguayan holiday.

Montevideo, Uruguay, "The City of Roses." Looking towards the harbor, now the South American Naval Base of the Allies

"Strafing" the Boche

GEORGE C. DONNELLY, one of our correspondents at the Front, has written some very interesting letters, so if you want to hear the latest news of the doings "over there," read on. In the last issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, he gave us an account of how he and his companions fared on his trip over to the big fight. Now he continues the tale of his adventures on the other side. He was connected with the Traffic Department, Hudson Division, at the time of his enlistment in the 106th Machine Gun Battalion.

At the Front, 1918.

If life is a study of contrasts, war is one of extremes. Just seven days ago this bright and cheerful morn, I was huddling close to the corner of a dingy dug-out, each moment expecting an inquisitive shell which would score a direct hit, and between times fervently praying that the show would cease. We were under what is called a *straf*.

To-day it is different. We are comfortably located in a decent farm house, far from the flash and snap of guns, just as domestic as a lot of Bay state farmers and quite forgetful of past and future hardships. One lives for the present.

The barn yard has the same familiar odor; the calves in true spirit of friendship drink up our wash water or butt it over, while an occasional lap-eared porker grunts an abdominal greeting and scurries off to do what we so shortly ago were doing,—wallow in the accursed mud. Do you not picture our quiet, rural existence? Magnificent, say I.

With restricted description it is quite difficult to convey a real picture of what it means to gradually work up to the front lines, to remain there, and to march out when relieved. As a matter of fact, one gets such a medley of impressions that he is decidedly at sea. Yet it is all very simple and prosaic.

As a rule, new troops first leave their back areas for a spell in reserve. There they learn to accustom themselves to trench and field service conditions; they are liable to add bits of long-range shelling, an occasional bomb. To us it was not at all difficult, as we had had experience with both. We were very comfortable.

Our headquarters were located in a deserted *estaminet* which had no doubt been vacated with some certain degree of haste, for we were quite as well provided for as the average furnished room seeker expects to be. In the kitchen there was the proverbial "missing link" stove; china still stood in the cupboard; on the wall hung several near-art abortions of the usual country winter scene (dominated by a Charlie Chaplin-like statue), and a grotesque picture of still life in which a few bourgeois vegetables reposed on a Flemish platter and had as much sense of proportion as a slant-eyed squash. We needed only a "God bless our home" to be complete.

HIT OR MISS

I said that it was comfortable. It was, except at night. Then we seemed to be between Jerry and some distant target quite desirable to the voracity of his distant guns. As long as he went for his objective we were quite safe, but once in a while he fell short. Then we had occasion for alarm. As bad as shells are, one feels better out in the open because it has to hit fairly close to be dangerous, while inside one has roof, rafters, and what not to add to concussion and metal fragments. One would hate to be killed by a "Winter Scene." We were fortunate, however, and lived our days in peace and security. Then we moved.

At about—Pip Emma (P. M.), we marshaled our light-packed outfit and prepared to follow an appointed guide to some forward *rendezvous*. Out of the darkness he came, not on a frothing charger, but on an unromantic "bike." We followed on. Be-

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fore long we hit one of those many busy arteries that lead "up there" and are as crowded as Riverside Drive on a Sunday afternoon. Our place happened to be behind a caterpillar tractor, and as one unit cannot pass another, we tramped along in the infernal din. One could not hear himself think; neither could he speak, yet it was fortunate; we could hear the roar and thunder of the many guns; some were our own, but that matters not; they are quite unnerving and, worst of all, draw fire of retaliation, as even war is human in certain respects. It is a case of "well, you *straf* me and I'll *straf* you."

How long we plodded along in the Stygian darkness, ever drawing nearer to the curved line from which there shot long, streaming rockets, Very Lights, and various other pyrotechnics of war, I do not know, yet it seemed endless. The spirit of the men was wonderful. With a merry song they swung along, jibing at some huge orifice torn by a monster shell, cheering our own as they wound along over towards the Boches' land, and acting more like a lot of schoolboys picnic bound, than men on a mission of uncertainty and possible death. They are all the same!

Commanding officer, Field Artillery, U. S. A., in France, directing fire by telephone
Committee on Public Information

"COVER"

Once at Headquarters, it was not long before limbers were unloaded, and gun crews faded away in the darkness for their respective posts. I took two guns. They were soon located, while I paired off with Lieutenant T—— of the —— army and located in a very pretentious dug-out beneath the skeleton of a country farm house. It was entirely satisfactory, yet was inhabited (as I later found out), by a few others beside ourselves. "They toil not, neither do they spin," but they bite like blazes. It was my first acquaintance and very obnoxious, but not quite so bad as many another thing I saw and smelt during my brief sojourn. I reiterate that war *a la* R. H. Davis (deceased), and actual, are different. However, it was commodious and we soon entered into a most congenial partnership.

We rather expected sporadic shelling and were not at all disappointed. It came at all hours. At first it was most trying to cross a pock-marked field in which a few crumps crashed down with awful vengeance, but we learned quickly how to detect the ones coming our way and never hesitated to duck for cover. Now cover is not to be misjudged. There is none. One may get cover from view; from fire it is impossible. An H. E. will go through anything that is not sixty feet below surface, but one can get protection from fragments. When a shell hits, it bursts. If one is not blown up, if he gets low enough to let the column of earth and splinters go over, he is quite safe and secure. Of course, there is a moral sort of protection in even a screen of burlap, and the natural tendency of everybody seems to incline to the same place at the same time. I have seen five heads duck for the same door-way at one time. Generally, one gets through, the rest hanging half way. It needs coördination.

As soon as the novelty wears off, one settles down to a routine sort of existence. He becomes oblivious to the noisy din. As regards food, he is well cared for, as it is good, gets up, shells or no shells, and is bounteous. I had fresh eggs each morning and strawberries twice.

Tea became quite a formal function. T— and I would visit M— in his attractive cellar in what was once a pretty village; M— would visit us. With the 4.2's and 9.5's knocking bits off our neighbor's late domiciles, it was quite a unique setting, —one long to be remembered, strangely.

MUSIC AND KITTENS

With the men it is not entirely different. Even up front, not many hundred yards from outposts of Monsieur the Hun, I have heard the rattlety bang of a dissipated piano tearing off "Carry me Back to Blighty" or some H. Von Tilzer ditty of the American stage, while in the doorway of one dug-out there sat a tortoise shell kitten pawing away at a persistent fly, or flea, or something, and as domestic looking as a Berkshire cow. Victrolas are numerous. I tell you, man is most adaptable.

During this time, mind you, we did not see a Boche, *i.e.*, a live one. I did see a few "Morts." They are uninteresting and don't last well. Dead or alive they are filthy swine.

As we had no direct contact, we had no direct fighting. You see, except in a "push," war is most impersonal. It is a question of gunnery science. However, my chance came.

"IMPERSONAL" WAR

Lieutenant T— had a little job to do in a minor show. He said "Will you join me?" I replied, "Oui, oui." He had previously told me that I might get as many shells at home as I would with him, so I thought I might as well get the excitement of action. At best it was a gamble. So off we went.

Long before dawn, we stole out to a selected position protected by two sections of sheet iron, and, putting up our gun, awaited light and the zero hour. It was strangely silent. Not a gun spoke. Time flew slowly by; the last five minutes were a century, but when they had passed that, quiet became a seething hell. Every gun opened up with a cyclonic roar; our cover shook in the reverberations. Never did I hear such racket. One was too occupied to be afraid. How long it was I cannot say, but Jerry's barrage soon fell; we could see it some distance off. We could also see that it was slowly travelling our way. One after another they plunked nearer each time. That was from one side, and had me so busy that I forgot the front. We were equally bad off there.

Well, T— seemed so cool and the gun kept on a-shooting so regularly that there was nothing else to do but wait and be hopeful. This I did. About then a 4.2 dropped five yards to our left. The gun stopped: I flattened myself on the ground. The next, thought I, will get us, but "bloime" me if it did. *Not another dropped.*

I looked at T— with a "Heaven be praised" expression; he grinned a silent *Amen*, and the gunner again got action. Shortly after, the action stopped and our party beat it for home, and when I say that I was never so glad to crawl into a cave in all my life. I mean more than words can tell. What we did I shall never know. I do know that the papers say officially that on —— "Further prisoners were captured by us as the result of a successful raid carried out —— —— ——, et cetera." That is not very clear, is it? Already have I said, "War is deucedly impersonal."

CHASING COOTIES

After doing our tour we were not long in being shunted to back areas. Once there a clean-up began. We all chased cooties, were marched one and one-half miles for a bath, got a decent night's rest and were soon ourselves. Our occupation did not affect our numbers. We were most fortunate. So here I am, happy as can be, enjoying the beauties of a sunny land and trying to keep up a cheerful smile. It is not difficult. How long our comfort will last no one can tell. Long or short, one does not care. We are soldiers; soldiers are puny pawns.

NOBODY LOVES A CENSOR

"Who censors the censor's love-letters?
"The censor has no love-letters."
—*Kansas City Star.*

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Brothers All!

NATURALLY, no two people, and no two countries do things in exactly the same way. The Frenchmen are vastly amused at the methods of our men, while the Americans continually express their astonishment at the customs and habits of their French companions at arms. E. J. Patterson, who used to be in the Plant Department, New Jersey Division, writes an interesting letter describing this attitude, and tells of the great celebration in France to commemorate the Fourth of July. He adds that the long range bombardment by the Germans has been temporarily stopped, probably owing to the fact that the Huns are too busy at the present moment trying to save their skins to pay any attention to it.

Paris, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. NAYLON:

Perhaps you did not know that I am becoming a cable expert. At present I am pulling in underground. It is probably the first cable to be pulled in over here, by motor truck, judging from the number of French officials that were on the job the first day. Wish that you could see the inspector that has been with me,—looks like a Count and sports a cane. He is great on hand shaking.

I had the opportunity to witness two wonderful celebrations here on the 4th and 14th of July. On the 4th, the parade was made up of about three regiments of Americans, 100 American nurses, and a great many French soldiers. How the French people did cheer when the Marines passed! During the parade there was an aviator directly overhead doing all kinds of stunts. I saw him loop the loop eight times without a stop. In the evening the American Ambulance Service had a program at the Gaumont Palace, given chiefly for the Allied wounded, or Blessés, as they are called over here. There was a number of selections, but boxing was the main attraction. The place has a seating capacity of between 6,000 and 7,000, so there was room for all.

The parade on the 14th was one that I shall always remember. It was made up as follows: mounted guards, military band, a detachment of Paris firemen and cadets from the military schools, Americans, Belgians, English and Irish troops, and kilted Scots, Australians, New Zealanders and Canadians, Italians, Greeks, Poles, Portuguese, Czecho-Slovaks, and a great many French troops, many of them veterans of the Marne, of Yser, and of Verdun.

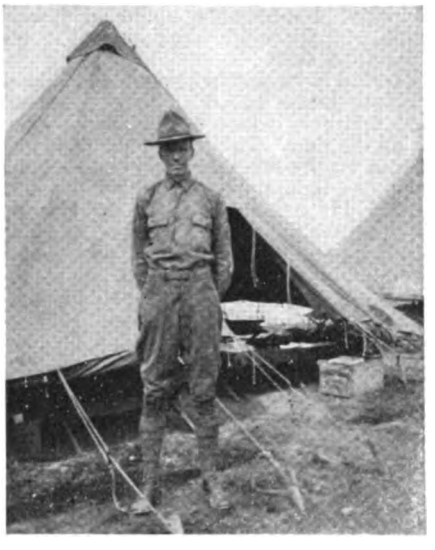
You can probably imagine what a wonwerful sight it was.

FROM SERGEANT FRED. G. SEARCH, FORMERLY ELECTROLYSIS TESTER IN THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION

We landed about snuset one evening in one of the prettiest harbors in France. Everywhere there were American articles of war, piled thirty to forty feet high, and American buildings and railway conveyances. Our camp was a field near an old French stronghold in which Napoleon used to quarter prisoners and execute political opponents.

All the boys consider France a wonderful country, picturesque and quaint. The highways are exceptionally good after four years of wear, without repair; all homes are built of stone or brick, and are ornamented with stones of different colors. The gardens are unequaled anywhere in the States.

The French telephone and telegraph equipment is strange. Cross-arms are rare, iron brackets being used on all lines. In some places I have seen six poles braced together with brackets fastened on in every manner. Lines on highways in some places are only eight feet off the ground. Cables



Lieutenant H. W. Graham, who has had a taste of shell fire while observing behind the "shell-proof"

are used only in cities and in small villages, rubber cables of about fifteen pair being used from the pole to the central office.

FROM ED. J. HEENAN, SIGNAL CORPS, FORMERLY CHIEF CLERK, TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

DEAR SISTER:

Got back from my trip yesterday. The trip back was rather tiresome, but after a good night's sleep I am O. K. again.

The country around Monte Carlo is beautiful and the hotels and villas are beyond description. Stopped at Nice the greater part of the time, and was very well treated by everyone I met. Most everyone there speaks English, and at the present time the Americans are in high favor with both the native and the visitors there.

We took side trips from Nice to all the towns along the coast from Cannes clear up to the Italian border. We met a fine young fellow, a Greek, and a former resident of Constantinople, who took us around and showed us all there was to be seen that was interesting. We also went to his mother's home for tea time. They are quite English in their manners, and the Australians enjoyed the tea probably more than I did. It was the first I had tasted since my last visit to Lincoln Road.

AT MONTE CARLO

We visited every corner of the Casino at Monte Carlo, even the private salons where only the millionaires play. The decorations and pictures are wonderful. Our visit, of course, was made in the early morning before it opened for the public. When we came out the halls and waiting rooms were crowded with people waiting to get in and play. Most of the crowd were women, and not a few of them rather on the shady side of fifty. The guide told us they have been coming daily for years. Some of them didn't look as though they had a franc to their name, but they must have luck of some kind to keep up with the game.

We were also through the Hotel De Paris, which is located directly opposite the Casino, and which is said to be the finest hotel in the world. While not nearly as large as some of ours in New York, it certainly does beat them all for splendor.

Almost all the towns along the coast are winter resorts, and are full of hotels. In Nice alone there are over five hundred. While it is now off season for practically all of them, we were told that it was the best summer season they had ever had. This is due to the great number of people who left Paris and the northern resorts when the Huns started their drive last spring. The town is full of rich refugees from Servia, Greece, Russia, and Belgium. We also met quite a few people from the States, among them ex-Mayor Van Wyck of New York, who has been living in France for some years.

The rates there were very reasonable, though I understand they are higher during the winter season. We had a fine big double room for eight francs a day,—about a dollar fifty. The meals generally cost us from three to six francs apiece. The only thing there seemed to be a shortage of was sugar. In its place they served two saccharine pellets with the coffee. Thought at first that they were the regular army pills. I suppose you have heard that France has no more meatless days.

TO THE ITALIAN BORDER

Our trip up to the Italian border was full of wonderful sights. For quite a distance we were on the same road by which Napoleon crossed the Alps on his way to Italy, but the biggest part of the trip we made in trolleys. The snow-topped mountains of Italy could be plainly seen in the distance on one side, and the wide expanse of the Mediterranean on the other. We were only permitted across the bridge into Italy, the border there being designated by a barber pole. Didn't have time to stop for a genuine spaghetti dinner.

Behind a "Shell-Proof"

LIEUTENANT H. W. GRAHAM, now in the 105th U. S. Infantry, formerly in the Tremont Commercial Office, tells us that he went to the Front to "observe," and that "Belgium is no summer resort." The contrast must have been great, after his brief sojourn in Paris. His adventures will probably be of great interest to his friends in the Company.

France, August 4, 1918.

MY DEAR CHIEF:

I am going to take advantage of my first "day off" in France to let you know that I

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am still above ground. This condition, however, is not permanently guaranteed, so I am going to communicate while communicating is good. "I am still O. K.," as the fellow remarked as he passed the fifth floor, after falling off the tower of the Singer Building.

After being twenty-eight days on a freight transport I finally reached a port in Southern France. Traveling alone, I started out to find my regiment "some place in northern France." On my way north I discovered a wonderful city called Paris, and decided that I ought to explore its wonders. So I explored for three days, and covered the town pretty well, visiting everything from Napoleon's tomb to the Follies Bongére, enjoying the entire show. I was fortunate enough to be there over the Fourth of July, and that surely was a wonderful day. The Yanks were a riot that day—and a French riot is *some* riot, I'll tell the world.

Then I journeyed on to join my outfit, and finally connected with them, up behind the British Army. They were so glad to see me that they immediately sent me up to join an east survey regiment which was holding the first line opposite a famous hill and ridge that the Huns had recently captured.

As I was sent up as an observer, the English officers were extremely courteous and decided nothing could interfere with my observations. So they put me out in a little trench—*two feet deep*—and told me to keep my head down during the day. That was the most unnecessary order I ever received.

An English captain and myself shared a little shell-proof (?) made of tin, and I had a most instructive tour of duty covering four nights and three days. You had to go to that trench and leave it at night, as the delicatessen dealers hold all the high ground in the neighborhood. And I was glad enough to sneak out on the last night. You will pardon me if I say that I thought hell broke loose up there several times. Belgium is no summer resort.

I am now at General Pershing's headquarters attending a gas warfare school for officers, but will go back to the regiment on Tuesday. It's a three-day trip—with one night in Paris.

Taking the Waters at "Axlebrains"

WHEN the American "doughboys" sailed for France, they had every intention in the world to see all there was to be seen on the other side of the "pond," as they call it. They hardly expected, however, to have a rest camp at one of the most famous watering places in the world, Aix-les-Bains. When they found that they could get passes easily for it, they began to doubt its virtues, it is said, thinking that there must be something the matter with the place, but they soon found that it was very much worth while.

Characteristically, they refused to struggle with the difficult French pronunciation of Aix-les-Bains, and they christened it "Axlebrains,"—rather inelegant, to be sure, but sufficient to distinguish it from all other places. What more is needed? The fact that they can take all sorts and numbers of baths there appeals very strongly to them, we suspect. Comments are not lacking, by any means, and most of them are humorous. The Y. M. C. A. has made an excellent club-house out of the famous casino, and all together, this soldier's playground, as one writer has so aptly named it, is a great success.

FROM CORNELIUS J. LA ROE, FORMERLY A MEMBER OF THE LONG ISLAND PLANT DEPARTMENT

This place is noted for its sulphur baths. You sit in a room and have the sulphur streaming all over you, and a man to massage you. It takes about a half hour, and when you are through you feel like a new "ghink." I took three baths, one every other day. I spent a day up on Mt. Renard giving Mt. Blanc the once over. It was a beautiful sight.

There is a mountain right along side of this bath house, in which there is a hole eight feet deep where the sulphur is burning all the time. There is a large lake near by, and on the other side of it is a church about one thousand years old or more. I spent a day in this church looking at the different paintings and statues.

In this town there is a large casino which covers about two square blocks, which was a gambling place before the war, but which is now used by the Y. M. C. A. for American soldiers.

MAJOR SHEARER DESCRIBES THE BOCHE RETREAT, AND TELLS OF THE WONDERFUL WORK OF THE TELEPHONE MAN IN KEEPING UP WITH THE PURSUING LINE

I received orders for ten days' temporary duty with an American unit that was taking an active part in the Allied counter attack. The object of the trip was purely educational, and had no other significance. My duties were only to see what is required of signal troops in an active area. Fortunately I struck a time when things were busy, as otherwise I should have had a dull time of it.

The retreat of the Boche was in progress, and that meant considerable wire work for the pursuing armies. That was just the condition I wanted to see and, incidentally, it gave an opportunity to see many interesting things. A retreating enemy is not very dangerous for work such as I was specially interested in; they are busy getting away, and do not bother much with any one back of the advance line. We were favored with a few shells a day, but the aim was absurdly poor, so that my tin hat was not much more than excess baggage. In the evening we usually wore them, as one could never be sure they might not come in handy. Gas masks were always carried and occasionally used when gas shells were thought to be coming over. There was considerable aerial activity, and I saw a few resultless fights. Altogether the experience had just enough possibilities to give it zest, but not enough to make much of a story about.

The country had all been recaptured from the Boche, and showed strikingly the results of the Allied artillery fire,—villages without a sound house left in them and roads full of shell holes. We kept moving up as the line advanced, and would be in a town in a few hours after the enemy had abandoned it; wires would be laid and a telephone center established.

THE FAMOUS LONG RANGE GUN

Near one of our "one night stands" the emplacement for a long range gun was found, but unfortunately the Boche had taken the gun back by rail. Imagine a cheese box twenty feet across and ten feet high made of one and one-half-inch iron plate and sunk level with the ground. On this the gun carriage rotated turret fashion on ten-inch ball bearings. The gun evidently was lifted from a railway car to the carriage and vice-versa, as a spur track led up to the carriage. It seemed to be trained on a city 40 kilometers away.

A captured German machine gun position

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Western Division Boys in the Service Send Home Good Reports

FROM all over the New York Telephone Company territory men have left the Company to offer their services to Uncle Sam. They are scattered throughout our vast army and navy organization, and are making good in the work that they are doing. The friends of those in the Western Division who are still on the "job" and serving Uncle Sam over here, will, no doubt, be glad to get these little "telegrams," as it were from their friends overseas.

I have done a great deal of traveling since leaving camp, and a lot of good hard work. I am still working hard, but I shall feel satisfied with having done my bit "Over Here" when we obtain our object, namely peace and democracy throughout the world.

JOHN ARENGO,
Co. A, 307 Infantry, A. E. F.
(Formerly a porter in the Seneca Building, Buffalo.)

I wish you could see the swell cars we rode in after we got off the boat in France! I was in a nice box car, about a third the size of American freight cars, and a two-wheeler at that. All went well until we wanted to sleep, as there were twenty-five of us. We had to sleep on the floor, one on top of the other. There was a side door in the car, and a few boards were left off the top to let some light in to let us see out.

The people here are real nice to us. We are in little barns and sheds. Some place! Some life! And like it all right!

JOHN W. BLYTHE,
Co. H, 108th U. S. Infantry, A. E. F.
(Formerly an inside-man at Rochester)

We got off the boat early in the morning and the first thing that we saw on the streets was a Ford "Flivver." This place is just like Buffalo—it's so different. The people are all hard to understand and all they can talk, of course, is French. This makes it quite hard for us to get things, and a fellow who can speak French is in luck and is in great demand as an interpreter.

The country is very beautiful—a great deal like Western New York. Of course, all the buildings are very old and the mode of living is different from our own. For me, I prefer the American.

The Y. M. C. A. building in camp is certainly very convenient. There we buy things, get our American money changed into French, and see a show of some kind every evening. The French money is very different from ours, and their coins of a small value have a hole through them like the Chinese Some things are very much cheaper than they are at home and some are more expensive. Cigarettes and tobacco are in some cases about half the price that we used to pay.

J. A. MOLE.
(Formerly splicer's helper, Buffalo.)

Am enjoying myself immensely and have seen many things which I shall never forget. We are camping in a small village which is centuries old. We can hear the roar of cannon as we lie in our tents at night, and as for aeroplanes, we make our necks ache looking at them.

EDWARD J. O'GRADY,
Co. G, 310th Infantry, A. E. F.
(Formerly splicer's helper, Rochester.)

I have traveled about 4,500 miles in the past three weeks, and am beginning to feel as if I were a "globe trotter." It is nothing unusual to see about fifty aeroplanes in the air at one time. I have met telephone men from ten different states.

WILLIAM J. SCHNANTZ,
Headquarters Co. 311th Inf., A. E. F.
(Formerly splicer's helper, Buffalo.)

We got aboard the transport (describing his trip across), which was none other than the good ship ———— (censored). Once on board all that was required of us was to find our sleeping quarters. After about half an hour's search they were found, but proved to be somewhat of a disappointment, being only hammocks swung from the beams in the hold of the ships, amidships. . . . Eats proved to be good and somewhat made up for the splendid staterooms allotted us . . .

One fine morning, just off the coast of ———— a bit of excitement occurred. We had a little disagreement with two German whales, commonly called "subs." You should have seen Tommy do a marathon to the upper decks,—fastest move I have made in a long time. Our escort dropped two depth bombs, which I believe took effect, for oil appeared on the sea where the periscope had been . . .

C. E. THOMAS,
Harling Road, England.
(Formerly plant clerk, Buffalo.)

We landed at an old French port and marched to a camp where we stayed several days. The French city seemed very strange to us with narrow streets, stone buildings, and people talking a lingo we could not understand. There were thousands of dirty kids. What strikes one the most is that there are no young men at all except in uniform—only old men and women, most of whom wear mourning. The old people wear wooden shoes that look something like Erie canal boats, and they can be heard clattering down the street for a block. . . .

The weather here is great and one doesn't mind the hardships. We are all playing a big game, and there is no complaint, as we all realize that the harder everybody works, both at home and out here, the quicker it will be over.

FRANK L. SIMES,
Lieutenant, Co. H,
108th Infantry,
A. E. F.
(Formerly storekeeper, Rochester.)

I am getting experience that will be of great help to me in the future, and hope to be of more help to the Company on my return than ever before.

EDSON BARBER,
302d Field Signal Battalion,
Co. C, A. E. F.
(Formerly lineman, Buffalo District.)

I enlisted because I like liberty. No matter how much we have to endure, we are all of the same opinion.

F. S. BRUZZESE,
16th Infantry, Co. D, A. E. F.
(Formerly porter, Seneca Building, Buffalo.)

We had a fine trip over, and we landed in England. Now we are in France, and it is a fine place here, although somewhat different from what it is over there. I hope the war will be over soon so I can get home again and work for Mr. Mongan. Kindly let me know about the Liberty Loan.

JAMES CAPITO,
Co. I, 311th Infantry, A. E. F.
(Formerly janitor, Niagara Falls.)

Best regards to you and all the boys bound over here.

A. J. MCLEOD,
U. S. S. Favorite.
(Formerly cable splicer, Buffalo.)

I just received a copy of the May REVIEW, which was very interesting; in fact, one of the corporals was so interested in it that he was five minutes late for mess,—which surprised the squad, as he is never late for that call . . .

We often hear the big guns sending their deadly charge of shell at the enemy, and have become so accustomed to them that we simply can't sleep peacefully without hearing them.

Up to the present I have witnessed two aeroplane battles and have often seen the shrapnel bursting about "Jerry's plane." I have also had the pleasure of being suddenly awakened from a sound sleep by hearing "Jerry's barking dog," and after a few seconds hearing the bombs drop and explode . . .

CHARLES A. EBBECKE,
102 Field Signal Battalion,
Co. C, A. E. F.

U. S. Marines taking messages from headquarters—France
Committee on Public Information

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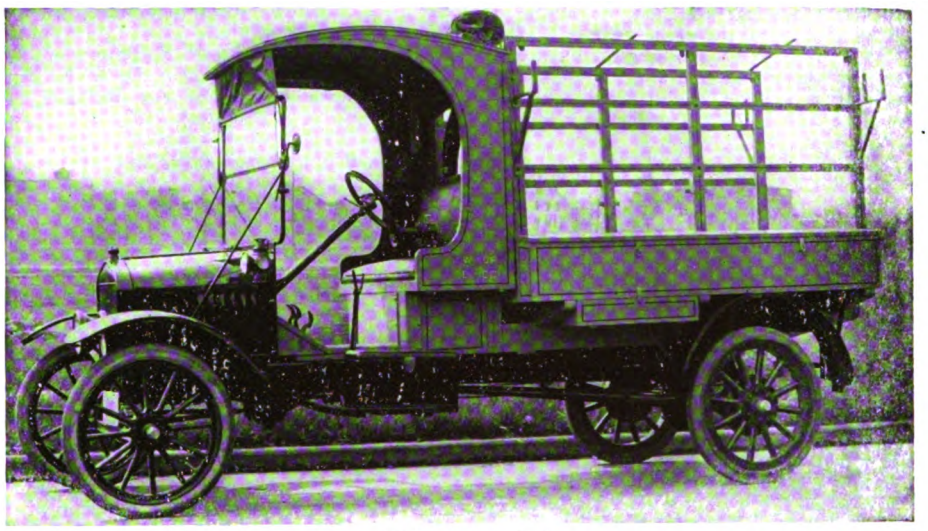
Standard Bodies for Motor Trucks

Motor Vehicle Department Designs Types to Meet Every Need

By W. M. Van Deusen, Supervisor of Motor Vehicles



1. Light one-ton body

THE Motor Vehicle Department has recently designed standard bodies for various types of vehicles, including one-, two-, three-, and five-ton trucks.

The trucks are divided into two general classes, as follows:

First. Trucks used for general delivery purposes, such as hauling supplies for the storerooms, delivering materials and tools to working gangs, and moving the gangs. For this purpose a plain wide body with stanchions was designed.

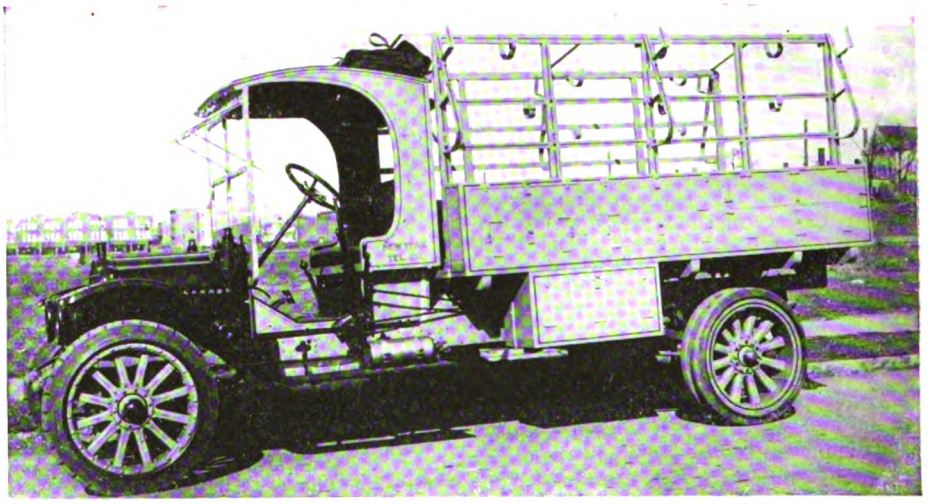
Second. Trucks which are assigned to construction gangs. For this purpose a body was designed with side boxes for the reception of tools and material ordinarily carried by the gangs.

In drawing plans for the latter type of body, a compromise was adopted between the plain type of body, which made no provision for the requirements of the gang, and the rather elaborate body used by several of the construction companies in the West. The side boxes are arranged to carry all the material used in wire work on the right side and material used in cable work and all tools on the left side.

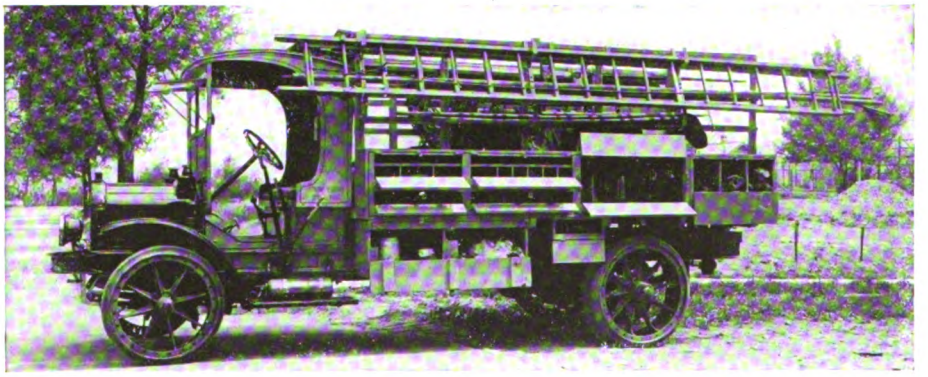
Illustration No. 1 shows a one-ton truck with side boxes for gangs of three or four men engaged in light line and loop construction and maintenance.

Illustration No. 2 shows a side view of a two-ton work truck.

Illustration No. 3 shows the three-ton truck, with the boxes open, revealing the arrangement of tool and material compartments. Illustration No. 4 shows rear view of the same truck. Note the clear body space immediately available for carrying reels of cable or for free use of the winch. This body is the same as the two-ton body, except that it is three feet longer, thus providing additional space for the men's clothes and personal



2. Two-ton work truck body



3. Three-ton work truck body. Note arrangement of tools and compartments for men's clothing

tools. The rear boxes are removable, so that the truck can be used for carrying a number of poles with trailer. Both the two- and three-ton trucks are provided with a lengthwise channel box beneath the body for carrying digging bars, et cetera, the skids being carried on each side (see Illustration No. 4). The three-ton body also has an under box just ahead of the rear wheels, which opens on both sides and is used for cant hooks.

Four one-ton, six two-ton, and four three-ton trucks with side boxes of the above type have recently been

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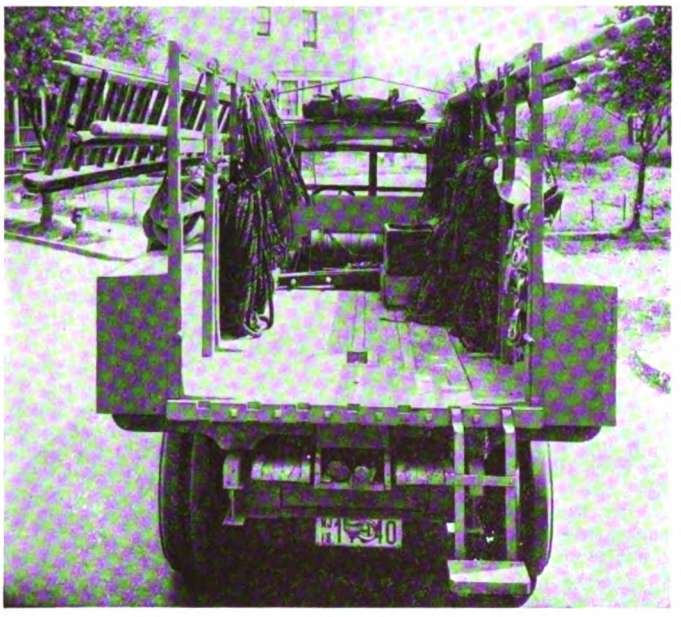
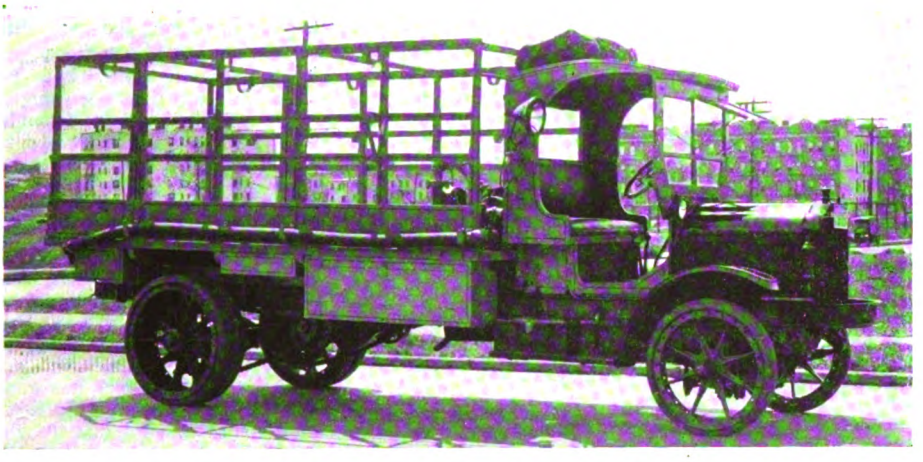
placed in service in three of the divisions of the Company.

Illustration No. 5 shows a five-ton truck for an underground cable pulling gang, recently placed in service in the New Jersey Division. This is a plain body with under boxes for duct rods and tools. In addition to the winch, there is a pump for pumping out manholes. This is operated from the transmission in the same manner as the winch. There is also a searchlight for emergency use at night, especially on subways along country roads where there are no street lights.



4. Rear view of three-ton work truck body. Note channel box for digging bars and tampers, with skids on each side



5. Five-ton truck body for underground cable gang. Note searchlight on side of cab and pump and winch behind cab

Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Florence Chambers, supervisor, Murray Hill, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Jeanette J. Flynn, senior operator, John, appointed supervisor.

Miss Anna M. Fritz, senior operator, Cortlandt, appointed supervisor.

Miss Frances Griffin, evening supervisor, Stuyvesant, appointed evening chief operator and transferred to Gramercy.

Miss Mary Kelly, evening supervisor, Madison Squire, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mary E. Kytells, night senior operator, Orchard, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Teresa McHugh, night senior operator, Melrose, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Teresa Quinn, senior operator, Washington, appointed supervisor.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss Edith Curry, senior toll clerk, Harlem accounting office, appointed instructor of toll division training bureau.

Commercial Department

Percy J. Weeks, appointed chief clerk, East New York commercial office, succeeding John F. Healy, chief clerk, transferred to Bedford commercial office.

Westchester Division

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss Edna Gibb appointed senior toll clerk.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

Miss May C. Mickel, operator, Leonia, appointed evening chief operator.

Commercial Department

Wm. Hutton, Jr., division supervisor of advertising, resigned.

W. F. Schmidt in addition to his duties as division supervisor of advertising, Manhattan-Bronx Westchester Division, will assume supervision of advertising work in New Jersey.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss E. C. Reid appointed toll supervisor.

Miss Frances Schmidt appointed senior toll clerk.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Anna V. Kelly, evening senior operator, Midwood, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary M. Kelly, senior operator, Long Island toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen McTeer, evening senior operator, Far Rockaway, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Julia P. Noonan, night senior operator, Sterling, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Frances VonKamen, evening senior operator, Bushwick, appointed evening supervisor.

Central Division

Traffic Department

Elliott C. Gordon, traffic inspector, resigned to enter military service.

Miss Lillian DuPlessis, senior operator, Syracuse-Warren, temporarily working at Washington, D. C., appointed supervisor.

Miss Eunice Galloway, evening senior toll operator, Binghamton, appointed evening toll supervisor.

Miss Myrtle Gardiner, operating agent, Bath, appointed chief operator.

Miss Alice Hayes, night operator, Watertown, appointed night chief operator.

Plant Department

Daniel E. Hayes transferred from Friendship Telephone Company as outside plant engineer.

James K. Sears, wire chief's clerk, Utica, appointed insideman, Utica.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary E. Keefe, senior operator, Kingston, appointed supervisor.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Helen Ball, senior operator, Rochester-Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Loretta Houghton, evening operator, Olean, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Catherine McCann, senior operator, Rochester-Main, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary O'Connor, supervisor, Rochester-Main, appointed traveling chief operator.

Miss Lillian Spiess, senior operator, Rochester-Genesee, appointed supervisor.

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VISITING FRENCH ARTISTS
Frederic Sali, Paul Achard, and George Petit, with District Manager J. P. Bernard, Syracuse of the French Military Band

Visiting French Artists

THE illustration shows Frederic Sali, officier de l'Instruction publique, compositeur de musique à Paris; Paul Achard, officer d'Academie, artiste musicien à Paris; Georges Petit, officier d'Academie, artiste musicien à Paris; and Mr. J. P. Bernard, District Manager of our Company, backed up by the American flag. The three artists depicted are members of the French Military Band, which delighted the ears of the music lovers at the Syracuse State Fair held recently.

Mr. Bernard, who is of French-Belgian extraction, put himself at the disposal of the French "Poilus" in an endeavor to have them spend their time as agreeably as possible, and in a manner compatible with their duty. A visit to Division Headquarters was, of course, a natural diversion. The French gentlemen seemed to take a lively interest in our organization and in the functions of our different services. They had an opportunity of seeing our operators at work during the rush hours, and left the building delighted with what they had seen.

Profuse personal thanks and letters of appreciation since they left Syracuse are convincing that our friends from France have carried with them "an excellent and everlasting remembrance."

A POLITE RETORT

Traffic Cop—"Come on! What's the matter with you?"

Truck Driver—"I'm well, thanks, but my engine's dead!"—*Buffalo Express.*

France a Topsy-Turvy of Trifles, Soldier Writes—Heart of America More Important

The writer of the letter from France published below is a well-known graduate of Yale University and the President of a coal mining company of Pennsylvania. After serving in the American Ambulance in France he transferred to the French Artillery with other men from Eastern American universities. The letter was written to his friend and minister, the Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Odell, of Troy, N. Y.

DEAR DOCTOR: I remember that before I left New York you and many of my other friends said, "I envy you going over there, old man, where the big things are doing." Big things! . . . Why, in the topsy-turvy world of the trenches, casernes, and depots I have found that life is just a network of trifles.

A separate peace in Russia—that is an insignificant topic for a few minutes' conversation in the mess hall. Immortality—the subject of a few minutes' thought if one happens to sleep badly and wakes up at 2 in the morning. But the absorbing topics are these: "The 6 o'clock 'moche' was cold this morning; the new lieutenant insists on a douche, and a change of linen every Sunday; the last lot of 'pinard' wasn't fit for a carter to drink; on the magazine which you received from America this morning there was a purple stamp which I should like to add to my collection."

We over here are absorbed in finding devices to keep warm at night . . . in schoolboy tricks in the barracks, . . . in endless exercises with the grenade and bayonet, . . . in minute study of the course and efficacy of tiny shell fragments. And down at the front they spend weeks watching a low dirt parapet or a clump of shattered trees.

If you should draw a heart-shaped figure, with its point resting in Chicago and its indentation on New York and the two parabolas touching Washington on one side and Boston on the other, you would have the Zone of Big Things in this war, so far as America is concerned. Chicago the food center, New York the money and shipping center, Washington the policy center, and our greatest industries included in its borders.

On the pulsing of that great heart back home depends allied success or failure. Lucky people that live close to it—that are its blood and muscle! For you the great task of pumping vigor into depleted veins on this side. For you the magnificent duty of maintaining a health flow in the arteries of communication on land and water. For you the solution of the big political and social problems.

I had to come to France to learn that it is the Army of the Rear, back in the States, that is going to win or lose the war. The army in France will do nothing new or extraordinary in building several hundred miles of railroad to the front. But it was a momentous event when Wilson pooled the equipment and management of the railroads of the United States. Our engineers are building several hundred kilometers of military highway, but the Romans did as much a couple of thousand years ago, and did it much better * * * so well, in fact, that we still use their foundations. The important thing is: will you send us the trucks and supplies to roll over these roads? The mere act of digging a trench is nothing in itself . . . the "wops" are the best at it, but will you build the ships to send the men to fill them?

The men here have done a big thing in surrendering comforts and facing death, but in the meantime life is a dreary skein of nagging details, a series of sickening endurances against boredom, fatigue, cold, and hunger—but principally against boredom.

When I compare the importance of your work with ours, I grow really envious. Before us we have the Boche—but alongside of you you have the pacifist, the defectionist, the selfish laborite, the greedy manufacturer, and, worst of all, the loafer. I wish they could give you a sack of bombs and *carte blanche* to go after every loafer in field, factory, office, or Washington bureau!

The administration has demonstrated its dependence on public sentiment, and there you have another big, interesting daily work. Of course, public sentiment is just your opinion and everybody's else added together and divided by 100,000,000. But to have the right opinion—to express it—to argue for it—to fight the element that seeks to use a crisis to further political aims—to watch for treason and expose it—there is a game worth playing, and I can imagine how thoroughly you are engaged in it with pen, voice, brain, and heart!

It is you, who regretted staying home because you were missing the "big things," upon whom, after all, everything depends. It is you who, from a calm distance, with daily complete news at your elbow, can form sane judgments, and, if you will, compel the sane action that will justify our miseries and dangers.

It is pathetic how the muddy, shivering soldier down there, engrossed in his little miseries and trifling joys, is dependent upon his comrade of the rear, who too often forgets his task, or even the existence of war . . . and yet it is he alone who can bring the soldiers back. The war has gone badly so far because the Army of the Rear,—from the short-sighted diplomat to the striking laborer,—has failed to realize the size of his burden.

The soldiers will do their little bit every day, never fear, but those behind the lines must be worthy of them. Have they been? . . .

In the meantime we must continue our flea-hunting, our drills, our mathematics, and, every once in a while, take the big risk—and, while you tackle the big problems, our outlook is a few square kilometers of mud, or a block or so of barracks, and our concern is whether the new lot of tobacco will arrive Wednesday, and whether it will be horse or cow for supper.—*New York Times,* Sept. 1, 1918.

Then the kaiser waved his iron (as the papers have it) hand,
And he danced a little sara- (that's a Turkish tango) band,
And he said: "I'm safe in Heli- (in the German sea) goland,
But I thank my friend Carranza."

—*Chicago Tribune.*

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

A Local Telephone System Is or Should Be Recognized as a Natural Monopoly

THE Supreme Court of Iowa, in the case of Talmadge versus Town of Washta and others, held, among other things, that a local telephone system or exchange, the primary purpose of which is to supply the needs of the local population for intercommunication, is or should be recognized as a natural monopoly; that a single system properly regulated and administered will serve the convenience of any given community better and more effectively than two or more systems competing for the favor of the same clientage.

Further, the court stated, that the telephone as a public convenience had two quite distinct uses. In one, it competes with the telegraph affording means of quick communication between persons separated by very considerable distances, and in the other, it provides networks of purely local lines extending from a central station in each city to the homes, offices, and business places therein. In performing services of the first kind its success and efficiency depend primarily upon its right and opportunity to overcome the handicap of mere distance and provide a means of communication between more or less widely separated places. Each place so served is in a sense a mere way station, and its connection is effected by at most very few wires which enter and leave town by the most direct course, and but slightly increase the burden upon the streets, and add but little to the city's burden of police supervision. On the other hand, the ordinary telephone exchange is, as a rule, a purely local concern whose tentacles reach out into nearly every building within the corporate limits. Its poles crowd the streets and its web of wires fills the air. The proper regulation and maintenance of its system without undue interference with the ordinary use of the streets for other legitimate purposes presents a serious problem for the consideration of the municipality. The city or town, therefore, has the right to determine who shall have the authority to operate a local telephone system and to prescribe reasonable conditions for the grant, but a municipal franchise is not necessary as a condition precedent to the construction of a telephone line into and through any city or town for the purpose of connecting with other places and centers of population beyond the confines of the local jurisdiction.

State-Wide Theory Approved

THE city of Hartford complained to the Public Utilities Commission of Connecticut that the increase in the street railway fares of the Connecticut Company from five to six cents on its lines in Hartford and the towns immediately adjoining was unreasonable. The city insisted that in determining whether or not the six-cent rate was reasonable for Hartford, the lines within its limits should be considered separately, and that if a five-cent fare was a reasonable fare in Hartford, car riders therein should not be compelled to pay more than five cents, in order to give the company the funds which it might need on account of unprofitable operation of other lines.

The company insisted that it should be treated as a whole, since it was operated as a single system under one general management, and since its bookkeeping and accounting system was kept in accordance with the requirements of the Interstate Commerce Commission and of the Public Utilities Commission and was kept as a unit affecting the company's entire operation, and since, moreover, the problem of procuring finances for the whole or any part of the system involved the earnings, expenses, and valuation of the whole property and the distribution of risks and casualty claims over the entire system.

The Commission held that, since the corporate identity of respondent as a consolidated company under legislative approval was coextensive with its corporate operations as an entirety, the body as a whole must be taken into consideration in a proposition affecting any branch of its service. Therefore, in determining the particular issues involved in this case, the Commission of necessity took into consideration certain facts and conditions affecting the whole system, even though by so doing it inferentially passed upon the reasonableness of rates in other localities not complained of. Upon all the facts presented the Commission was of opinion and found that the rates complained of were not unreasonable and, therefore, dismissed the city's complaint.

Starvation Policy Would Deprive the Public of All Utilities

IN authorizing the Empire Gas and Electric Company to establish an emergency increase in its rates for gas, the Public Service Commission, Second District, New York, pointed out that it was difficult for public utilities to obtain necessary capital at this time except through the War Finance Corporation which has made a statement substantially as follows:

"The directors of the War Finance Corporation do not feel that they have authority under the law to make loans except upon adequate security as required by the act, and they are convinced that the inability of a utility company to earn a sum at least sufficient to pay its fixed charges, taxes, maintenance, and repairs is conclusive evidence of the inadequacy of its own obligation as security. The directors of the corporation feel that the locality served by these various public utility enterprises should not expect the War Finance Corporation to make advances to any utility company whose statement shows that it is in actual need of increased revenue. It is a matter for the local authorities to determine whether or not an increase in rates sufficient to maintain the enterprises as going concerns should be granted. It is urged, therefore, that the proper authorities give prompt consideration to applications made by public utilities for permission to increase rates in order that the directors of the War Finance Corporation may know, when applications for loans are presented by public utility corpora-

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tions, whether or not they will be able to give adequate security."

The Commission held that it was evident from this that if public service corporations were to be permitted to make the most necessary extensions and improvements, or even refund outstanding capital obligations, the Commission must insure to them such rates as would yield a revenue meeting the requirements of the War Finance Corporation. This does not mean that rates shall be permitted which are unnecessarily high in the present emergency, nor is it proposed to pursue a starvation policy, which, if the war should long continue, would inevitably deprive the public of all of its utilities. The rates fixed by the Commission were emergency rates and were made effective only for a period of six months and thereafter until the Commission should fix higher or lower rates.

Payment for Telephone Service Is Not a License to Abuse the Service

THOMAS P. EDWARDS complained to the Public Utilities Commission of Illinois that the Ashland Telephone Company had discontinued his telephone service and had removed the telephone from his residence without just cause. From the evidence it appeared that the company had discontinued the service because complainant had used improper language over the telephone to the company's operators. There was a sharp conflict in the evidence as to the language used. Complainant admitted making one remark which could not very well be excused. While this remark was not addressed to the telephone operator, it did have reference to her and was heard by her while in the performance of her duty.

The Commission held that the mere fact that the subscriber was paying for telephone service could not be considered as a license to him to abuse the right to service. The telephone company is expected to give prompt and courteous service to its patrons, and when such service is given its employees will not be expected or required to listen to discourteous remarks or offensive language from the patrons of the company. In other words, telephone operators and other employees are entitled to courteous treatment from the users of the service, and the use of vulgar or abusive language over a telephone line cannot be too strongly condemned.

Since, however, it appeared that complainant had indulged in offensive remarks on one occasion only, the Commission held, that while the company would be justified in notifying him to desist from the use of such improper language, the company had applied too harsh a remedy in removing his telephone and discontinuing his service. In other words, the Commission was of opinion that improper conduct of a subscriber in a single instance would not ordinarily justify a discontinuance of his service. It was, therefore, ordered that complainant's service be restored.

Justice Demands That Immediate Relief Be Granted to Public Utilities

THE Public Service Commission of Indiana has authorized all the interurban railroads in the State to increase their passenger fares to a point not exceeding a maximum of 2½ cents per mile. The Commission's investigations convinced it that war time increases in the cost of operation and maintenance of the interurban properties in the State had created a most serious crisis. Already orders had been issued for the abandonment and dismantlement of two electric lines, and another petition for abandonment was pending. The great question was the continuation of this interurban service which was so vital to the State.

The Commission states that in taking steps to maintain these interurban railroads it is responsive to the war time policies adopted by the national administration, as evidenced by Secretary McAdoo's letter to President Wilson in which he states that the local public utilities must not be permitted to become weakened, and President Wilson's reply thereto in which he states that it is essential that these utilities be maintained at their maximum efficiency and that everything reasonably possible should be done with that end in view.

Every Citizen and Every Municipality Must Bear a Share of the War Burdens

HENRY J. SCHAAD complained to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania that the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company had withdrawn certain trains on its Bowman's Creek branch between Bernice and Towanda, and that the present service of the company between said points was inadequate.

The Commission held that ordinarily the trains in question would be found proper and necessary for the convenience and accommodation of the public, and if taken out of service would be restored. That, however, the country was now passing through an extraordinary crisis requiring that the resources of the nation should be conserved with the utmost vigilance to the end that the government might possess itself of its maximum power and efficiency. That this end could be achieved only through the sacrifice and coöperative service of the people in the smallest, as well as in the most populous communities. That the conveniences and privileges which the people enjoyed in less strenuous times must accordingly give way, and that, for the time being at least, it has become the patriotic duty of every citizen and municipality to carry its proportionate share of the national burden, even though it mean fewer accommodations or a certain degree of injury to local business interests. That, therefore, by reason of the serious situation in which the country finds itself placed, and the nation-wide measures necessary to conserve our industrial resources for military purposes, and the amount of sacrifice that must be made in every home and community in the land to achieve this end, the complaint could not be sustained at this time since the trains in question had been withdrawn in compliance with the instructions of the Committee on National Defense of the Railroad War Board that fuel, supplies, and labor be conserved.

What She Does

She comes at early morning,
  She comes at sunset's glow,
She sends no word of warning,
  But what she wants to know;
For, if you question squarely
  Our knowledge sure we'll own
And speak her greetings fairly:
  "Please, may I use your 'phone?"

Full long she'll sit there talking
  Pure bosh—that point we press;
And all the while she's balking
  Our family business.
She giggles and she chatters
  Until we feebly groan,
But all to her that matters
  Is that she holds the 'phone.

To see her hurt would grieve me,
  Her smile's so friendly sweet;
But some bright day, believe me,
  I'll try a cure complete.
To stay her and unmask her
  I'll match her dulcet tone
And just trip up and ask her:
  "Please, may I use my 'phone?"

—*Chicago Daily News.*

Clipped by Mrs. Harriet M. Sterling, night operator, Canandaigua.

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J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
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PROGRAM *for the* CONSERVATION *of* TELEPHONE SERVICE

AUGUST 15, 1918, the Postmaster General issued an order to all telephone companies "to confine extensions and betterments to imperative and unavoidable work to meet war requirements and the vital commercial needs of the country."

ALL COMPANIES were directed to "adopt and enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper to accomplish this result because of the difficulties incident to war conditions of securing adequate supplies, labor, and transportation."

IN COMPLIANCE with this order, this company will undertake to provide service as promptly as conditions will permit for essential war work and vital commercial needs.

WHERE IT IS NOT OBVIOUS that applicants for service fall within these classes, evidence will be required that the service requested is of such importance in war production work or is of such vital commercial necessity as to warrant service being established.

POSSESSION of government contracts, priority shipping privileges, or a letter or other form of advice from the chief of a government department certifying to the necessity for the establishment of service, will be accepted as evidence.

NO APPLICATIONS for service except those permitted under the order of the Postmaster General will be accepted.

IN VIEW OF CONDITIONS brought about by the war, it is particularly desirable that telephone service be conserved in every possible way for use by the government and essential war industries and activities.

YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE OF GREAT HELP TO THIS COMPANY IN COMPLYING WITH THE ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

Liberty Bonds—Insurance Policies on Victory—Buy Them

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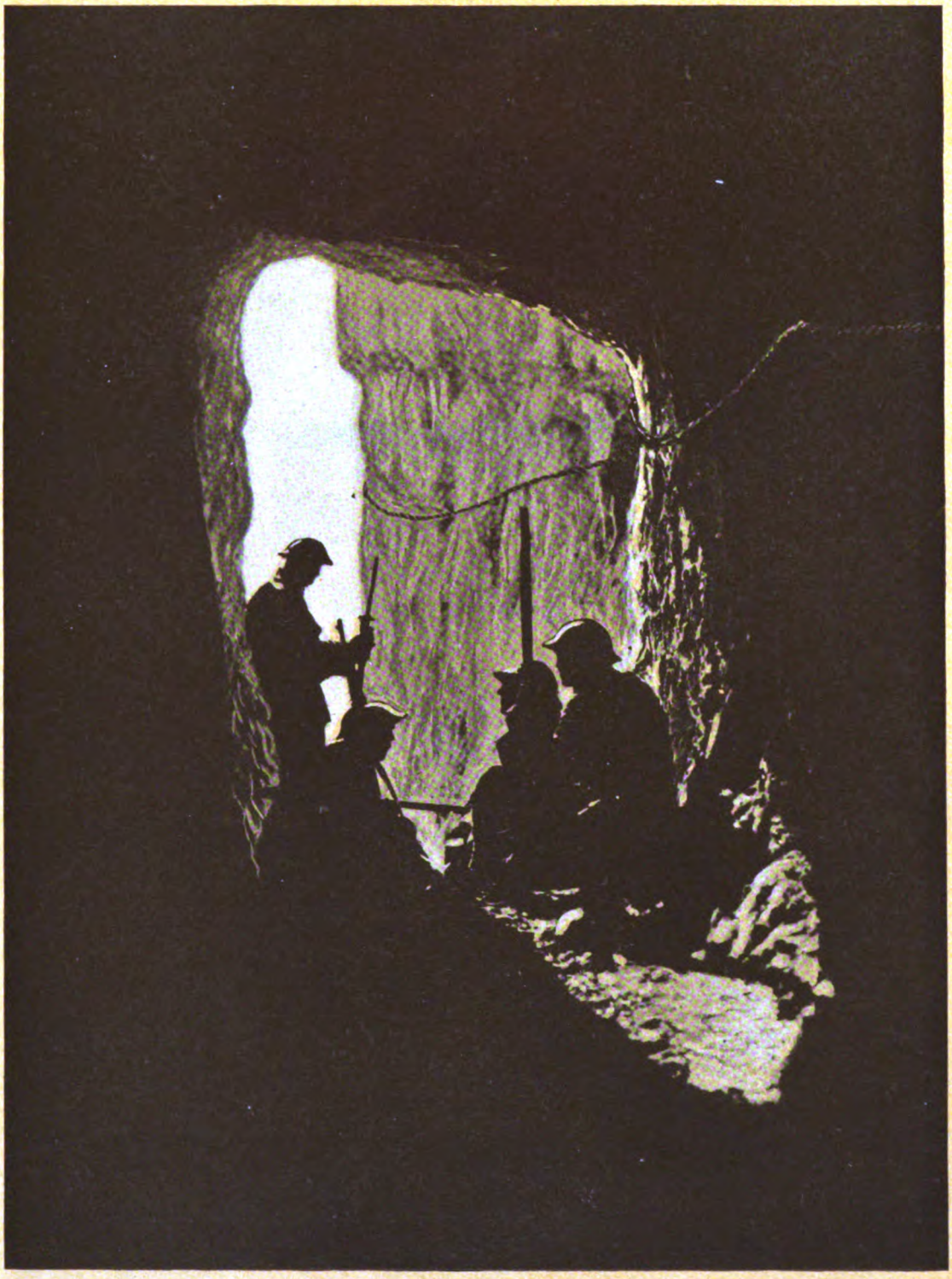
The TELEPHONE REVIEW



November, 1918 Vol. 9. No. 11

SOLDIERS OF THE ALLIES
Waiting in a Tunnel for Telephone Orders to Advance

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Unarmed Arms of the Service

Men from the battle front who have been holding the line for months and years complain of the monotony of war. The soldier's life in the trenches soon ceases to be a novelty and becomes a tedious routine.

The morale of the army is of supreme importance and the greatest military authorities of the world are enthusiastic in their praise of the organizations which make it their business to keep the soldier in good spirits.

This work, like that of the Signal Corps, has been more highly developed in this war than ever before. Huts for amusement, comfort and recuperation of the fighting men are in the trenches as well as behind the lines. The unarmed workers go about their duties under shell fire as coolly and as self-forgetfully as the telephone men of the Signal Corps who are frequently their neighbors, and who keep intact, often under a hail of bullets, the indispensable lines of communication.

It is for us who remain at home to support these unarmed heroes to the utmost, with our gifts, our labor, and our unbreakable morale.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy *One System* *Universal Service*

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The Telephone Review
New York November 1918
Vol. IX, No.11

Operators Commended

Splendid Work Performed Under Most Trying Conditions

IT is timely and simply a matter of justice to the operators of the New York Telephone Company, to express the very high appreciation which the officials feel towards them. as a body for the faithful and efficient service, judged by every standard, which they have been and are rendering to the public under circumstances more difficult and trying than have ever existed anywhere since the telephone was invented.

The spirit of service which animates them is known to every subscriber and patron of the Company who has lifted a receiver and placed an emergency call. The praises of the operator have been sung in prose and verse for a generation, the newspapers have been full of it, and the files of the Company contain thousands of letters of appreciation,—touching and pathetic some of them are, from men and women who say they cannot find words adequate to express their gratitude and deep sense of obligation for the patient, kindly, and sympathetic service which these girls, perfect strangers to them, have shown in the most delicate and courteous manner in times of stress.

Business and professional men, from one end of the country to the other, rely on our girls as dependable assistants in their most important transactions, and every one who has had experience with telephone service in other countries declares there is no service to be had anywhere in the world that will compare with the ordinary every-day service that our telephone girls are giving.

The praise that they have received is not exceeded by that bestowed upon women who devote their lives to the merciful work of the Red Cross, and instances will readily occur to our readers of telephone operators risking life itself in the performance of duty as bravely and unselfishly as any hero on a battlefield.

They need no defense or apology if they now find difficulty in coping with the deluge of calls, double and treble the amount of traffic they have ordinarily been called upon to handle, and if in consequence the service is not maintained at the same high standard that the public is accustomed to receive from them.

Wrong number connections, due to errors on the part of the public, and "line busy" and "don't answer" reports, increase in number as the result of the increased traffic over the wires, just the same as any errors that the operators may make, and instead of criticism and complaint, the operating force of the Company is entitled to receive the highest commendation for the public service that is being given under these conditions.

It is to-day of as high a grade as any service the public is receiving. Merchants have discontinued or reduced their deliveries; transportation lines have been forced to cut down the service they have been giving; newspapers have increased their price, limited their circulation, and refuse to take back unsold copies;—on every hand, from coal to gasoline,—costs have increased to the consumer, service has been reduced, in one way or another, and the public has accepted it all with an explanation (or none) as being necessary on account of the war.

And yet no business has been so much affected by the war as the telephone.

Instead of its traffic being cut down, it has jumped,—by leaps and bounds. Instead of being relieved by the aid of any other means of communication, it has largely supplanted all others for personal, direct, and immediate service. Instead of a reserve of plant which could be utilized for growth, it is now next to impossible to obtain switchboards, copper wire, instruments, and other equipment, so great is the demand to supply Government needs, both in this country and in France. Instead of being able to maintain a reserve force of highly trained and skilled operators, prepared to meet any demand, hundreds have been sent to Washington and into other Government service.

Upon the heels of these conditions has come the epidemic of influenza, which has not spared the telephone operators any more than the rest of the population. More than this, the spread of the epidemic has still further increased the number of telephone calls which the operating forces on duty have had to handle.

In view of these facts, and when it is remembered that by order of the Government, government calls have precedence over all commercial telephone traffic, it will plainly be seen that the telephone operators are working under circumstances more difficult and trying than have ever existed anywhere since the telephone was invented.

The dependence placed upon the telephone is the greatest possible tribute to its utility, and such criticism as is directed against the present service is the highest compliment that could be paid to the operators for the service they have rendered in the past.

All of us must remember that present conditions are only temporary, and we must realize, also, that our work during these abnormal and extraordinary times is the form which "doing our bit" takes. Our operators appreciate this, we are sure, and are determined that they will "carry on" as heroically as need be, just as our boys "over there" are doing, until the war is won.

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Theodore N. Vail, President of The American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Makes the Following Statement:

Basis of Compensation

AFTER extended conferences between the representatives of the Postmaster General and of the Bell System, covering—that there might be no misunderstanding—painstaking and exhaustive discussion and a frank exchange of views, what constitutes a just compensation for the supervision, possession, control, and operation of the Bell System taken over under the proclamation of the President of the United States, has been agreed upon.

The representatives of the Bell System throughout the negotiations found nothing but helpfulness; asking no more than they thought ought to be paid by the Government, they found an intent and desire to pay all that ought to be paid, and for the protection of the property to do all that ought to be done and all that has been done in the past. In taking over the property the Postmaster General also desires to give continuity to the service, and as far as consistent with Government operation, to the personnel which has brought the property to its present degree of efficiency.

From the first exchange of views until the close, the Bell representatives were met by the Postmaster General and his representatives in a spirit of absolute fairness and with an earnest desire to preserve the service to the public, and preserve the property for the proprietors as well as to give them established returns on their securities.

The principles adopted as a basis of compensation were:

First: Any compensation fixed for the period of control was to be considered as compensation for an emergency period and not in any way considered as establishing a value for the property.

Second: The operation of the property is to be continued on a basis of efficiency relatively equal to that of the past.

Third: The property is to be fully maintained so as to be turned back to the Company as good as when received.

Fourth: Appropriation from current revenue for maintenance, depreciation, and obsolescene to be the same as the past—an average of 5.72% on the fixed capital—amortization of intangible capital to be relatively equal to the past. All unexpended balances from both to be invested in the plant of the System. Charges against the depreciation reserve to be in accordance with the rules of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Fifth: Employees' pension, disability benefits, and death benefits now in operation to be continued.

Sixth: All taxes, municipal, state, or federal, to be paid, or reimbursed if paid by the companies, by the Government.

Seventh: The license and rental contracts between the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the licensee companies to be continued, and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company is to give such advice and assistance as the Postmaster General may require, is to maintain its scientific, technical, and engineering departments, its patent protection for the benefit of the property in the same manner as heretofore. The Postmaster General to have the benefit during the period of control, in the operation of the wire system, of all inventions, discoveries, and ideas, which may now or hereafter be controlled by the Bell System.

These provisions are for the protection of the property, the service, and the art, and provide for the continuation of the service and for the continual development of the art, as well as the protection of the developed situation, and are for the full protection of the public in its service and the proprietors in the property and development.

For the security holders is provided:

(a) Payment of the interest and existing amortization charges on all outstanding securities or obligations of the Bell System in the hands of the public, including the 6% convertible bonds issued August 1, 1918.

(b) Payment of dividends at the existing rate upon the share capital of the Bell System outstanding in the hands of the public.

(c) Payment of any charges, interest, dividends, or other costs on new securities or share capital issued in discharge, conversion, or renewal or extension of present obligations.

For extensions to property:

As provided above, unexpended depreciation shall be invested in property of the System.

American Telephone and Telegraph Company surplus shall be invested in its property.

Surplus profits from operation may be invested by the Postmaster General.

If securities or capital can be issued at fair terms the Bell System will issue its securities if desired, but the nominal value of the securities shall not exceed 80% of the amount expended in the property.

Extensions to its property made with the approval of the Bell System by money furnished by the Postmaster General shall be paid for in installments of 5% per annum after the period of control ceases.

Extensions by the Postmaster General to meet abnormal conditions and made without the approval of the System shall be appraised by the Interstate Commerce Commission at the end of the period of control and their value to the System as appraised shall be paid for in installments of 5% per annum.

The whole basis of the negotiation on both sides was to ask no more than was right, to grant all that was right, and to protect a great property and a great service to the public in every possible way.

In closing: The public should bear in mind that we are in the midst of very abnormal times. Scarcity of labor, high costs of living, and great increases in demands on the service which are congested and not well distributed, will create conditions which it will be difficult for the telephone systems to meet no matter how much charges and wages are increased, and some consideration must be given before criticism is indulged in.

A Great Work

IT IS always interesting to regard one's work through the disinterested eyes of an outsider. The following extract, therefore, taken from a letter of a man in France not in the telephone business before entering the army, has added interest on this account:

Back of the lines, the regular Bell System seems to be growing daily. Many miles of permanent lines have been set, and I think the French Government will have at least the nucleus of a *real* telephone system when Johnny comes sailing home. The French do not use poles in the towns, but brackets, which are fastened to the buildings. Twisted pair is entirely foreign to them. Their boards, receivers, and transmitters are very different from the American equipment.

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The Fourth Liberty Loan

Designed by H. M. Templeton, Long Lines Traffic Department and distributed among the force

AS we go to press, it is too early to print the result of subscriptions by employees of the Company to the Fourth Liberty Loan. There is no doubt, however, that they have risen nobly to the obligation and opportunity, and have done their full share in true American fashion.

It is known that in a great many cases the subscriptions through the Company were only nominal, in order to have representation, such employees subscribing largely through town organizations, local banks, or other organizations with which they were affiliated. In probably a greater number of cases the outside subscriptions were not as large as the same individuals made through the Company, as in the case of one man who writes: "In addition to the $1,250 subscribed through the Company for Liberty Bonds, I have taken $450 through the ——— bank: Sixty per cent. of my salary is pledged to Liberty Bonds." This percentage is undoubtedly exceptionally high, but the case serves to illustrate the fact that no figures of subscriptions through the Company would indicate the response made by our employees to the call of the nation for money to prosecute the war.

How It Was Done by the Construction Department, New Jersey

On Saturday, October 5, the Construction Department in the New Jersey Division organized its campaign for the Fourth Liberty Loan drive, and on Friday, October 11, 99.9 per cent. of all the employees in that force had subscribed.

While the drive was in progress a bulletin board was maintained in the general office of the Construction Department, showing the progress of each field sub-committeeman by days.

On account of the prevailing epidemic of influenza during the period of the campaign, fifty members of the Construction force were absent on account of sickness, and others were located at distant outlying points.

It is proper to explain that 566 members of the force out of a total of 567 subscribed to the Fourth Liberty Loan, and that the remaining employee is a member of a religious organization having the strongest convictions against warfare. However, this employee's loyalty was clearly manifested by a contribution of $100 to the Red Cross, in lieu of a Liberty Bond subscription.

Equipment Engineers, New York

In the Equipment Engineer's force in Manhattan it was decided among themselves that seventeen employees ought to take $5,100. Pledges were distributed, and thirty-five minutes later they were collected, showing subscriptions aggregating $5,300.

Stearns' Men 100%

C. E. Stearns, wire foreman in the Construction Department, Manhattan, and his force, fourteen men in all, subscribed $2,050. Their spirit is typical of the entire organization of the New York Telephone Company, even if some departments may not have done as well in total subscriptions. This spirit is illustrated by the following letter:

SCHEDULE 4TH LIBERTY LOAN SUBSCRIPTION
CONSTRUCTION DEPT. N.J. DIV.

Name	7	8	9	10	11	FINAL
TESTING FORCE						
H.D.Blood	82%	87%	100%	—	—	100%
CABLE PLACING FORCE						
G.Seamon	0	100%	—	—	—	100%
J.Thompson	0	85%	100%	—	—	100%
M.O.Nilson	0	100%	—	—	—	100%
D.McElravey	83%	83%	83%	100%	—	100%
N.Nilsen	0	57%	71%	85%	100%	100%
F.Werimuth	0	57%	85%	100%	—	100%
F.W.Hankinson	0	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Total for force	—	81%	87%	91%	95%	98%
CLERICAL FORCE						
J.F.McCarthy	81%	87%	100%	—	—	100%
SUBWAY FORCE						
M.J.Skurla	0	72%	78%	92%	100%	100%
R.W.Miller	0	81%	100%	—	—	100%
C.A.Merklein	0	0	57%	85%	100%	100%
Total for force	0	66%	79%	92%	100%	100%
SPLICING FORCE						
P.J.Martin	0	6%	9%	87%	96%	100%
I.S.Wise	0	45%	45%	81%	100%	100%
W.B.Weller	0	12%	12%	100%	—	100%
J.E.McKenna	0	68%	80%	80%	80%	100%
A.D.Rogers	0	0	84%	84%	100%	100%
T.Coleman	0	85%	85%	100%	—	100%
C.F.Blanchard	0	0	100%	—	—	100%
H.A.Tuite	3%	74%	83%	100%	—	100%
A.R.Palser	0	42%	83%	83%	100%	100%
Total for force	—	43%	56%	84%	86%	100%
LINE FORCE						
J.O'Brien	0	40%	92%	100%	—	100%
C.Shaughnessey	0	0	100%	—	—	100%
W.L.Houlston	0	0	91%	91%	100%	100%
W.L.Rogers	0	0	85%	100%	—	100%
W.J.Fahey	0	0	0	94%	100%	100%
A.T.O'Toble	0	0	85%	85%	100%	100%
J.Lahey	0	0	0	40%	100%	100%
R.G.Allen	0	85%	100%	—	—	100%
S.E.Gregson	0	0	80%	80%	100%	100%
A.Ryan	9%	66%	68%	90%	100%	100%
TOTAL FOR FORCE	—	28%	60%	74%	100%	100%
TOTAL FOR CONST.DEPT.	11%	45%	68%	82%	98%	99.9%

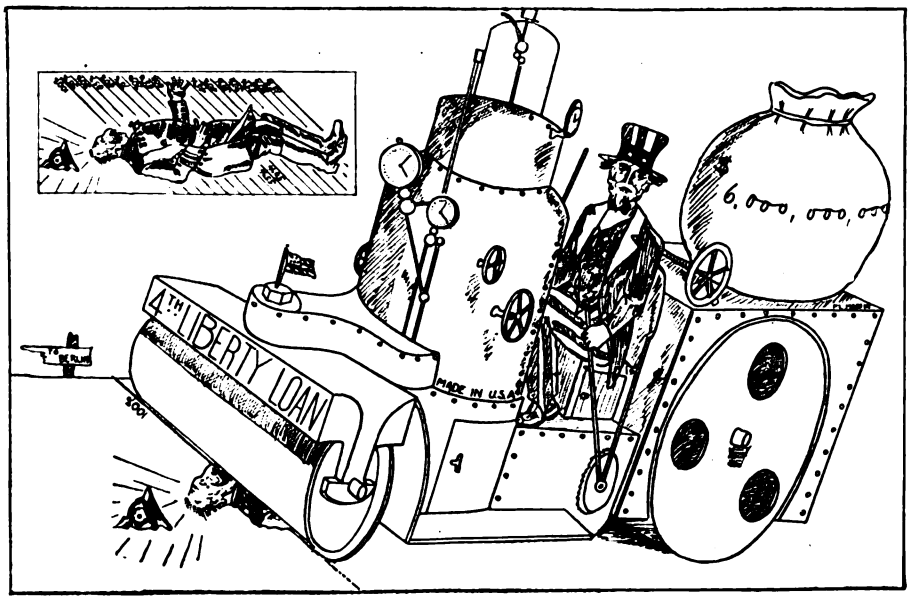
A Liberty Loan showing of one New Jersey department that is almost perfection

EDITOR, THE TELEPHONE REVIEW:

I am enclosing an honor letter made up by Mr. Stearns showing the individual subscriptions of the men, the grand total amounting to $2,800. The total of the Third Loan was $2,000, and of the Second Loan was $1,350. Going up, on each Loan! His men carried 100% on all Loans and the Red Cross drives. I think the record for fourteen men cannot be equalled.

F. A. DEHN, Badge No. 2068.

In all the division besides what they have subscribed, credit must be given for the tremendous amount of work the employees have performed in canvassing, clerical work, and otherwise in promoting the success of the Fourth Liberty Loan.



Liberty Loan poster (reduced size) drawn by Fred C. Martin, Engineering Dept., L. I. Division, and posted in offices. As the percentage of subscriptions increased, the Kaiser was pushed farther and farther through a slit under the roller (note insert).

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More News of Our Boys in France

"SOME of these honor marks I will carry the rest of my life." So wrote Sergeant Arthur Totten, wounded in the second battle of the Marne, and as game as they make 'em. Although "they" say he is severely wounded, he does not agree with them, in spite of the fact that he has no less than the small number of nine wounds. "Why worry?" he inquires, "since no bones are broken, and none of the wounds are in a vital spot."

He is not daunted by the fact that his right jaw is broken, and his teeth are wired together, nor does his injured right hand prevent him from writing home (reducing his wounds from nine to two, for his mother's sake). In fact, he is more interested in the goods "eats" he is getting, and in telling about how the Germans ran, than in casualties!

DEAR MILTON:

I guess everyone is worrying and wondering how I am. I am (that is, they say I am) severely wounded. I have the small number of nine (9) wounds. No bones broken, so why worry, and none in a vital spot. They consist of two machine gun bullet, and seven high explosive wounds.

I got them on Sunday, July 28, in the second battle of the Marne. We were charging up a hill in the face of heavy machine gun fire when I got two, one through the foot and one through the leg. I started to crawl to the rear. I had crawled about half a mile when a shell landed in front of me and I got seven more. A couple of comrades helped me to walk a little further on to a dressing station. The Boche started shelling the station and took down part of two walls. I said good night to myself, but was only covered with plaster and dirt.

Arthur C. Totten, 1st Sergt., 165th Infantry, A. E. F.—Formerly of Riverside Commercial Office, N. Y.

Anyway, I am now in a Base Hospital, and having good eats, good care, and a good bed. For dinner I had two bowls of soup, a dish of chicken, mashed potatoes, three slices bread, tomatoes, and jam. Got a piece of shrapnel through my right hand so I have to use my left hand to write with.

Say, you should have seen those Dutchmen run. We (the infantry) advanced so fast our artillery couldn't keep up with us.

Sergt. A. C. TOTTEN.

Base Hospital 26, Ward N., A. E. F.

(Formerly in the Riverside Commercial Office.)

This Time Next Year

Private Terence Kirk, wounded at the Front, predicts confidently the end of the war!

I am not back into action yet; I'm at what we call a replacement camp waiting to be sent back to my company. Where I'm at now is quite a place,—nice fellows (Yankees), and lots to eat.

I expect to be back in the trenches in a few days. I would love to be up with the boys slaughtering those Germans. I bet the Kaiser loves the Americans; I don't suppose the Americans love him either.

New York must be pretty well cleaned up of the young fellows. I know we have plenty of them over here. You must have a hard time finding young fellows to work in the office. I don't think this time next year you will need to look very hard, I guess all the boys will be there.

We have a couple of English papers over here, one of which is the Paris edition of the *New York Herald*. From what it says, New York or all the states must be going wild over the work their Yankee boys are doing. The boys that can't get over here to fight are mad as the "dickens"; they just love the idea of having a chance to kill Germans. I guess by this time next year we will put the finishing touches on him.

(Private Kirk was formerly in the Filing Department, Manhattan-Bronx Division.)

AN OPTIMIST

The trip lasted a few days. We landed at this burg, and it isn't half bad at all. We have our motor transportation and our garrison rations, have our own canteen, a Company barber, and there's a little French woman who comes two or three times a week for our wash, so you can see we are not at all badly fixed at present. . . .

It fell to my lot to have the mumps both sides and in the middle, but they only kept me under for three weeks. I am back on the old job again and feeling like my old self.

Sergeant L. J. TAPPAN.

404th Telegraph Battalion.

(Formerly in the Plant Department, Manhattan-Bronx Division.)

The Spirit of '76

They say that it is not good to be too optimistic, because we are liable to take things too much for granted. But how can we help it when we receive letters like this one from Corporal T. B. Fowler, of the 102nd Field Signal Battalion, formerly in the Manhattan-Bronx Plant Department, who declares that the spirit of '76 still lives in every Yankee heart, and that it will beat any amount of the Kaiser's military training?

France, 1918.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER:

Well, Pa, I am still enjoying the very best of good health. We get plenty of good eats, and I guess if you had some of these meals during the Civil War days, you would have thought it was the President's birthday.

My work is all telephone here now, and my experience with the New York Telephone Company surely does come in handy. I get out over the country a good deal and see many things that are going on laying wire all over. I never get tired of admiring these big [deleted] horses; they are just pictures of strength. The farmers take great care of them.

I guess you can tell by the papers that Uncle Sam's boys haven't forgotten how to fight, and even though they haven't spent half their lives in military training, they can whip the best Kaiser Bill has any time and any place. The spirit of '76 still lives in the heart of every Yankee boy over here, and they know that the day when they will be licked will not be in this war.

Back from the Trenches

J. Bruce MacWhinney, who used to be in the Traffic Department, Long Island, describes his life in France as "tough going, but very interesting":

France, 1918.

DEAR MR. RIKEL:

The division has just come out for a rest to-day, so I'll be able to do some much needed letter writing. Our bunch moved back about five miles where we'll be for a few days before going back further to be filled up.

The entire division is surely deserving of a real rest, as it has been in for some time and on the busy front.

For a few days we were kept busy by moving, making four moves in five days, all being a goodly distance.

I suppose you all want to know how I like the new life. Well, it's tough going, but very interesting. Our cars have been very busy night and day, the drivers doing twenty-four hours on and twenty-four hours off. It doesn't sound so bad on paper, but after being on a day it surely takes a day to rest up. Sometimes we are on for over a day, but those things can't be helped. We have been in almost a month now, so the cars must need a little rest besides us.

The other night my car got hit by a piece of a high explosive shell which exploded in front of my car. The blamed thing pierced the dashboard right in front of me, so I consider myself fortunate in not getting touched.

The following day I was over with an artillery battery pulling the string to square things up. One of the fellows told me about the observation balloon giving them a range on a crossroads where a German division was coming up, so they fired six shells, four of them being direct hits. Not so bad, is it?

In An American Sector

From time to time we see in the newspapers reports of the achievements of men in the Signal Battalions, whose duty it is to keep the lines open. There are a great many men from the New York Telephone Company engaged in this work. The following letter from one of them gives an idea of the work he and his comrades of the 302nd Signal Battalion are doing Sergeant Harry E. Kirkup, the writer,

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was formerly in the Manhattan-Bronx Engineering Department.

August 30, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. SMITH:

When we first struck the fighting area we were with the British in Flanders where we got some more training in trench work and wiring. After this we moved into Lorraine, where we took over a sector of our own. You probably read of this in all the New York papers. Here we did wire work and dug machine gun emplacements, and also dugouts. I myself had charge of building two dugouts.

At present we are right behind the Yanks in the sector now famed for the wonderful work of the Americans. I have been over quite a bit of the ground so recently won and it certainly was tough going,—which makes it all the more significant.

Our work here is pretty dangerous, as we are right up in under the guns. We are living in holes in a hill, about two miles from the front. We stick close to our dugouts by day and at night we go up to the Front to do our work. A few nights ago we put a bridge across a river right in front of the Germans. We were doing some wiring, too, but they got wind of us last night and we couldn't get near the work, as they kept a continual stream of shrapnel and gas shells pouring in on us. Needless to say, we withdrew in good order, as it was only suicidal to try it. I am wondering what we will find awaiting us tonight.

I was up to go to the Officers' Training School for Engineers three weeks ago, but they neglected to insert among my qualifications the fact that I had a degree, so the result is that I am still a Sergeant. I am hoping to get in the next one or I will know the reason why.

While coming over on the boat I ran into one of the chaps from Main, with whom I took some schooling last summer. In fact, there were quite a few New York Telephone men in the 302nd Signal Battalion.

I have been on the lookout for the Signal Corps recruited from the Company but as yet I have not been able to get any trace of them.

HARRY R. KIRKUP.

Sergt., Co. E, 302nd Eng.,
A. E. F.

"Shooting Trouble" With a Vengeance

Frank Semrad, Jr., Corporal in the 102d Field Signal Battalion, who was once in the Manhattan-Bronx Plant Department, wonders whether such a thing as an unbreakable wire could be invented.

DEAR MR. NEWMAN:

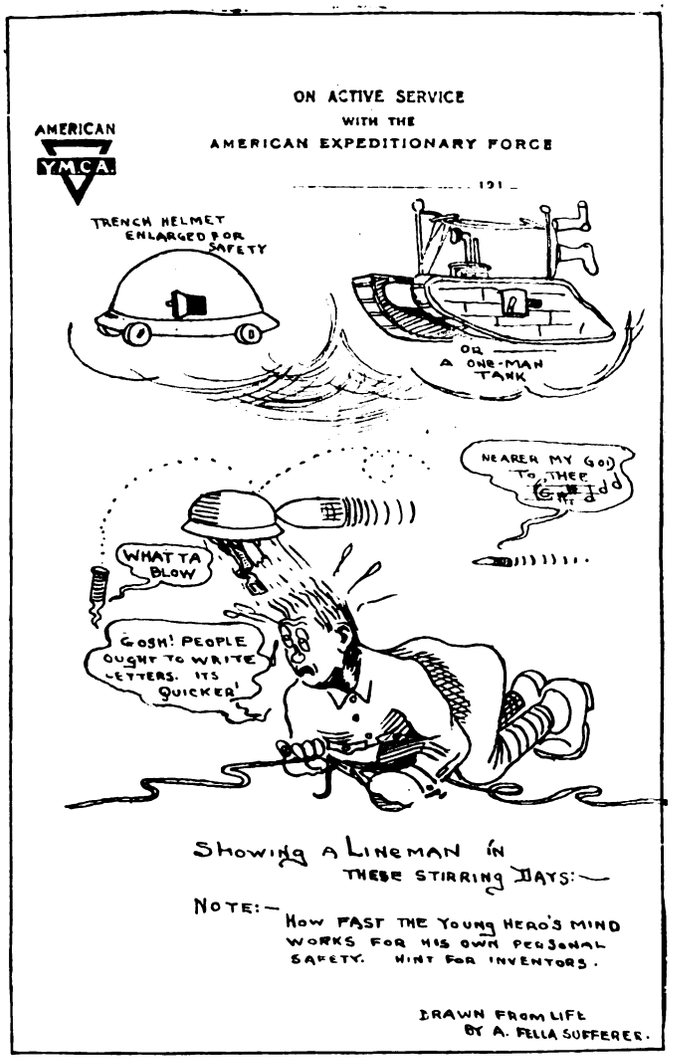
. . . I am enclosing a cartoon drawn by a Sergeant, also from the old N. Y. N. G., that was sent to me. In the cartoon you will notice that a lineman is out repairing lines, while bullets (machine gun) and shells drop galore, and the young man repairing the lines is dreaming of a possible one-man tank, or an enlarged helmet. Oh, it's a great life, but not a kick coming from any one of the signals; the boys all enjoyed it very much.

We are just after coming out of the trenches, putting a twelve-day trick in. We are now a week out, and soon expect to put in another trick. Some great sport when you find out you missed your own line and follow a line that Jerry (enemy) left when he was beaten, and it leads you into "No Man's Land." Yes, a man's thoughts are heavy when he is out shooting trouble with those Very Lights up, and "put! put! put!" sounding all around him—the old, wicked Jerry machine guns. Many a time I went out wondering if an unbreakable wire could be invented—one that would not break when a shell landed on it.

The favorite instrument that we boys like is that buzzer 'phone that our people, the Western Electric, make. Very few times is a 'phone used; in some cases it never is thought of; the buzzer and the International Morse Code are used most.

FRANK SEMRAD, JR.
Corp., Co. C, 102nd Fd. Sig. B'n, A.E.F.

P. S. If you wish you may publish this letter and the cartoon in THE TELEPHONE REVIEW. I'm sure the Censor will allow it to go through. If not, I would love to have the cartoon back. Thank you, Censor.


ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
AMERICAN Y.M.C.A.
TRENCH HELMET ENLARGED FOR SAFETY
OR A ONE-MAN TANK
NEARER MY GOD TO THEE
WHAT TA BLOW
GOSH! PEOPLE OUGHT TO WRITE LETTERS. ITS QUICKER!
SHOWING A LINEMAN IN THESE STIRRING DAYS:—
NOTE:— HOW FAST THE YOUNG HERO'S MIND WORKS FOR HIS OWN PERSONAL SAFETY. HINT FOR INVENTORS.
DRAWN FROM LIFE BY A. FELLA SUFFERER.

Passed by the Censor,—presumably as not involving any information of value to the enemy

Working 24 Hours a Day

When there is a big job to be done, the boys stay at it until it is finished, regardless of time or anything else. As one of them said, "There are no eight-hour days in the trenches!"

The French people certainly have a warm spot for all Americans. We are welcome everywhere. The French I studied at school just about enables me to get along.

I am enjoying my experiences immensely. Never felt better in my life, and would not have missed this opportunity for anything.

We have been working seven days a week, and about twenty-four hours a day over here. Owing to the fact that I am kept so busy, it is impossible for me to write as often as I would like to.

FRANK NEWMAN.
1st Lieutenant, Co. D, 401st Tel. B'n., A. E. F.
[Formerly chief clerk of the Benefit Fund Committee.]

EDGAR W. QUINBY, FORMER NEW JERSEY PLANT MAN, TELLS HOW MARINES MET THE HUNS

MY DEAR FOLKS:

Hip! Hip! Hooray! I have gone and done it and I am now safe and sound in a French hospital.

The day I wrote you we were all ordered to the front, and I am sure you have read what we marines did in helping to save Paris, routing the Heinies. It was all very wonderful, and I had about twelve of the liveliest days you ever heard about. My company was ordered to dugouts about 120 yards from the Huns, and we got to them under terrific artillery fire, and West, my pal, and I got into one about three feet deep. We had our rifles and a Chauchault machine gun and, believe me, we gave them h——. During the day the strain on our nerves was a bit hard as, except for the constant artillery barrage, there was nothing doing, but toward dusk and in the early morning it was a lulu and worth a million to be in it. I'll bet many a Hun wished we never existed. I got one for each member of the household; that is, I remember sniping that many, not to mention other damage, of which we could ascertain no results.

FROM LOWELL G. GLADDEN, 308TH SIGNAL BATTALION, FORMERLY IN THE MANHATTAN-BRONX ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

Somewhere in France, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. CARPENTER:

Last week I was living in what was once a very fine French home. The Germans were driven out of this little town only five days before we arrived. Most all the buildings were badly damaged by shell fire.

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HEADQUARTERS

Blue and Gray Division

29TH

SGT 1ST CLASS JOHN CHRISTOPHER 104 FIELD SIGNAL BN.

I HAVE READ WITH MUCH PRIDE THE REPORT OF

THE COLONEL COMMANDING THE 57TH BRIGADE

REGARDING YOUR GALLANTRY IN REPAIRING TELEPHONE WIRES DURING A BARRAGE AND RE-ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN COMPANY AND BATTALION COMMAND POSTS AFTER WORKING MORE THAN AN HOUR UNDER HEAVY ARTILLERY FIRE, DURING A GERMAN ATTACK 21 AUG. '18.

AND HAVE ORDERED YOUR NAME AND DEED INSCRIBED UPON THE RECORD BOOK KEPT AT THESE HEADQUARTERS FOR THAT PURPOSE.

C. G. Morton

MAJOR GENERAL
COMMANDING 29TH DIVISION

John Christopher (whose picture appears below) received official commendation for bravery. He was formerly an installer in the M.-B. Division

WINDSOR CASTLE

Soldiers of the United States, the people of the British Isles welcome you on your way to take your stand beside the armies of many Nations now fighting in the Old World the great battle for human freedom.
The Allies will gain new heart & spirit in your company.
I wish that I could shake the hand of each one of you & bid you God speed on your mission.

George R.I.

April 1918.

All American soldiers arriving in England are presented with an autographed letter from King George. Harold Deas sent his home

John Christopher, Sgt. 1st class, 104th Field Signal Bn.

There was an unexploded shell sticking in the wall of our room.

At present I am much closer, as I can hear the roar of our batteries. It is a wonderful sight at night, as that is the time of increased activity. Our first night here, the Germans tried to bomb us, but no one was hurt. Last night almost all the fellows slept in dug-outs expecting another raid, but the Boche didn't come back.

I might also say that I have seen Quentin Roosevelt's burial place.

I was certainly glad to receive THE TELEPHONE REVIEW last week, and hope that it will continue to come. We appreciate very much any news from the States.

Harold Deas describes his canopied bed and also tells why so many passengers ride on the street car platforms in France,—it costs less.

"OVER THE TOP"—OF THE BED

France, 1918.

After the men were billeted, we looked around to see what we could draw. I have a very nice place, front room, two windows, overlooks the main street, et cetera. And my bed! Whiz-gee, but that sure is a hum dinger. It is about five feet from the floor. It also has a bunch of due dab draperies over—blamed if I know what you call them—the top. In fact, the whole bloomin' bed can be curtained off if I wish, but I don't wish. But sleep! You should have seen me sleep my head off the first time that I was in that bed—last night. I was supposed to have arisen for reveille, but one dozen Germans couldn't have got me out.

Talk French? Well, I guess yes, and I haven't a French dictionary with me either. (However, sometimes I wish that I did have.) It is absolutely necessary that I do so, for the people with whom I am billeted do not understand English at all. I admit that I sure do slaughter it, but I manage to get along.

In my last letter I told you about the funny little street cars, and how even women rode on the platforms. Well, I managed to find out why that was. It costs less to ride outside than inside, 15 centimes, or three cents, outside, and 20 centimes, or four cents, inside.

The town where I now am is a typical French town. The washing is all done in the water which flows along the gutter. It is quite funny to see some of our men get right alongside of the natives and scrub their clothes a bit.

HAROLD DEAS,
1st Lieutenant.

FROM LIEUTENANT WILLIAM K. LEUFER, FORMERLY IN THE LONG ISLAND TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

Bordeaux, France.

DEAR MR. YATES:

The above address will tell you that our brigade is far from the firing line at a splendid artillery range. We are being put through a heavy course at this school, using the French 75, assimilating every possible manoeuvre at the Front. Of particular interest is the telephone system we are developing in connection with artillery lessons.

Several of the New York Telephone battalions are down here with the camp engineers.

Rumor has it that our brigade, the 104th, 105th, and 106th artillery regiments, will leave for the front on the 26th of this month. We are all pleased with the prospect of participating in the big show soon, particularly because it is now practically an open warfare proposition.

"HAPPY AS LARKS"

We see machines every five minutes or so here, and have to be in shelter almost all the time; we do our work at night so we can't be seen.

Last night we were very tired after our trip and went to bed early (which they never do here), as the raids start generally after dusk. We just got to sleep when we heard a Hun's machine. We all waited and then we heard a boom and knew that

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he had done his work not very far from us, but we were safe. We turned over and went to sleep and didn't wake until about four o'clock, when the big guns started to boom,—which lasted for two hours and meant no sleep for the weary.

Our main work now during the day is to keep in shelter and not be in sight for the Huns, and eat and sleep. We sleep on the floor, as hay is too precious here. But we don't mind, as we are doing our bit now.

When the boys got the orders to go, why they started to sing and were happy as larks; that's the spirit the boys have in our dear old regiment.

Musician D. E. LOREY.

Headquarters' Band, A. E. F.

[Formerly bookkeeper in Long Island Division Revenue Accounting Office.]

Real U. S. Girls

The American telephone operators were received with great acclaim by our men in France. Every once in a while they comment on the fine appearance the girls make, and applaud their work enthusiastically. Sergeant Daniel Petrucelly says that every time he sees one of them, he thinks of 195 Broadway, and the "dear old gang" he left behind. He was in the Engineering Department before entering the service.

Sgt. Daniel Petrucelly with the American Forces, Tours, France. Formerly in the Engineering Department, New York

Tours, France.

DEAR MR. HIGGINS:

I wondered who had been sending me THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, when I happened to look up in the left hand corner and saw "Chief Clerk, Engineering Department." Then it dawned upon me and I want to thank you very much for remembering me.

I am connected with the Motor Transport Corps, in the capacity of Chief of Records Section, which also includes the handling of 400 papers a day, and we are kept mighty busy. . . .

Tours is a beautiful little city and is often referred to as the Garden Spot of France, and it rightfully deserves the name. The country is wonderful, the parks beautiful, and flowers abound everywhere. The Public Buildings and the Cathedral are works of art, for which France is noted. The weather is real warm, and we go about without our coats, except at night, when we "promenade" up the Rue Nationale with a pretty Mlle., and try to look our best. . . .

Nothing pleased me more than to see real U. S. girls over here as telephone operators. They are a dandy lot, and we are proud of them. They gave a party to the enlisted men not long ago, and we all had a dandy time. Every time I see one of them, I think of 195 Broadway and the "Dear Old Gang" I left behind.

Stanley Coppinger, formerly in the Long Island City garage, sends a photograph, and writes that the same good fellowship among "Bell boys" exists "even way out here."

MY DEAR MR. PRAY:

I suppose you often wonder how "your boys" are getting along in France. Well, speaking for myself, it is not at all bad. I suppose you know that I was transferred from the Camp Q.M. to a supply train.

The supply train is really a large motor truck company. We have various kinds of motor trucks, even including those makes which used to come into the garage in Long Island. Motorcycles also figure in our work, and last, but by no means least, we have a good old Henry Ford with us. So you can see I am doing myself a lot of good. By a strange chance my commander, Major R. D. Valliant, is also a telephone man, and is well acquainted with Mr. Robley. I believe the Major used to be in the executive offices of the A. T. & T. Co.

. . . Yesterday, I received my first copy of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW since I have been in France and it sure did look like an old friend.

I have met several Bell men in the Signal Corps and always get a handshake when I make myself known. There seems to be, even way out here, the same feeling of good fellowship among "Bell boys" as there was at home.

STANLEY V. COPPINGER,
Q. M. Sergeant,
302nd Supply Train.
A. E. F.

Getting a Perspective

When one stands off and admires a finished piece of work, trying to see it with the eyes of others, it looks almost as strange to him as if he had never seen it before, for, while making it, he was absorbed with the details, and did not see the thing as a whole. William J. Bidwell, a former member of the Plant Department, Central Division, comments on how the same thing holds true when he views his work from a distance of 3,000 miles and more:

DEAR FRIENDS:

We boys are all working quite hard over here, and we all enjoy a sound sleep when night time arrives. We are all enjoying splendid health.

It seems the more our work shows off in the distance, the more we can picture scenes back in the dear old U. S. We are well taken care of in regard to food, clothing and sleeping quarters.

THE TELEPHONE REVIEW reaches us each month and we sure do appreciate same. We are always on the move. As we do not stay very long in one place we have a chance to see many strange sights.

WILLIAM J. BIDWELL,
Co. E, 403rd Telegraph Battalion.

You LENT When You Bought Liberty Bonds. Now GIVE to the UNITED WAR WORK FUND

Of the $170,500,000 required, the budget reveals the following distribution: The Y. M. C. A. requires $100,000,000; the National Catholic War Council, including the Knights of Columbus, $30,000,000; the War Camp Community Service and the Young Women's Christian Association, $15,000,000 each; Jewish Welfare Board, the American Library Association and the Salvation Army $3,500,000 each. Any excess above the total minimum figure will be divided in the same proportion among the organizations participating.

Quartermaster Sergeant Stanley V. Coppinger (indicated by arrow) and mates,—302nd Supply Train, A. E. F.

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In the Zone of Advance

Six American Telephone Operators Near the Front—Letters from Some of Them—Visited by Colonel J. J. Carty

THE most thrilling news contained in recent correspondence from American girls who have gone to France to operate the telephone system for General Pershing, is that six of them have been sent forward into the "zone of advance," and have been supplied with steel helmets and gas masks, and their office is sand-bagged! "But the funniest thing," writes Miss Esther Fresnel, of New York (one of the six), "is that the boys can't believe we are American girls . . . You see, an American girl is the last thing they expect to see up here, and consequently it doesn't come to their mind that we are 'sisters in arms.'"

At the war switchboards, through which the business of the A. E. F. is conducted, there are now two hundred and twenty-three of our American girls—and they are there to stay until they are no longer needed. "For the duration of the war" they have promised to serve as telephone operators for Uncle Sam abroad, and there is not one of them who is not upholding the tradition of "service" that is the motto of the telephone operator in our own country. Six units have gone over already, and the seventh will follow shortly.

Miss Fresnel was a member of the first unit, and we have frequently quoted from her charmingly descriptive letters to her parents. Another one of the six "farthest front" is Miss Helen E. Hill, of Seattle, Wash., who was a member of the Fourth Unit, and extracts from letters written by her, together with extracts from several more letters from Miss Fresnel, some written from General Headquarters and others from nearer the Front, making interesting reading.

Letters from Miss Fresnel

I

A HEAVENLY SUPPER

FRANCE, July 29, 1918.

. . . Yesterday being my day off, I stopped writing suddenly and went off for a ride on my wheel. You see, the rest of the time I always have to do something when I'm told to do it, whether I like it or not, so, on my day off, I'm always very careful to follow my every impulse. It's quite a change, and a restful one at that. So I went for a long "bike" ride with one of the boys and we had an early supper at a little farmhouse. It tasted absolutely like "Nectar," even though it consisted only of eggs, ham, fried potatoes, pancakes, salad, and coffee.

We got home at about 7:30, just in time for me to go for a little walk with Suzanne. We always try to go out a little by ourselves in the evening when the sun goes down, and talk things over, and always before the evening is over, we find ourselves mixed up in something or other. Sometimes it's rescuing children from some dreadful fate, or else it's capturing escaped German prisoners. Last night we were chasing goats.

You know, here the people take out their animals to pasture, and seeing half a dozen cows and calves and horses and goats, driven along by some little girl or boy with a great big stick, is an everyday occurrence. Well, Sue and I were walking along last night, when suddenly three goats rushed by us, almost upsetting us. Of course, immediately we knew something was up, because no one ever hurries in France. Turning around, we perceived the owner of the goats, who was rather stout and couldn't run very fast. We knew she never would be able to gather up her herd, so Sue and I offered our services.

The snapshot of Miss Esther Fresnel referred to in her letter

Having never had anything to do with goats before, we didn't know what we were in for. We certainly "rushed in where Angels fear to tread."

GETTING THEIR "GOATS"

After all it's not surprising that we were ignorant of the peculiarities of goats, because all I've ever seen of them is pictures where they browse contentedly or stand quietly and with dignity looking things over from some rocky peak or other.

Anyhow, Sue and I were certainly led a merry chase, over rocks and dump heaps, tin cans, fields of all sorts that we shouldn't have been in, and especially nettles. Those goats certainly had a *penchant* for *orties*. They ate them with relish that was stupendous. Seeing what nettles do to one exteriorly I have some forebodings as to the condition of that goat's insides, and woe to the one that patronized that *cheure* for milk and cheese.

We pursued the recalcitrant animals for a half hour or so, and decided that the owner, knowing the habits of her charges better than we did, would have more success.

So, wigwagging to her from an elevated point to come along and undertake the job herself, we sat down to watch and learn, incidentally, how to corral goats. It seems that flourishing a stick is every essential; anyhow, from what I could see, goat-herding is entirely beyong my ken. One thing I did learn, though, is to let "well enough alone," so when about fifteen minutes later we came upon a huge pig who refused to go home, but was running wildly around grunting and chortling with his ears flapping the way pig's ears do, Suzanne and I continued on our way, just walking a little faster.

I am sending you a little picture of myself. I must explain that I had no idea it was being taken at the time and so was caught *au naturel* with my mouth wide open. You can see I've still the same old uniform with which I left the States, but I hope to be able to get a new one when on my leave.

II

FRANCE,
August 18, 1918.

. . . Everyone coming over here imagines he or she will be in the front line trenches in no time. Seeing that it takes about five men in back to support one man in front, more than one person is doomed to disappointment, at first, anyhow.

Yesterday a captain came to see one of the girls on his way back from the front where he had been for almost two months, and had lunch with us. He was very, very interesting and told us a lot of things that opened our eyes and gave us a new outlook in certain ways. The boys that come back are very, very much worth while. Of course, there are exceptions to every rule. They have found the true value of things, both by themselves and in relation to others, and it seems to have given them a sense of strength that one can feel as soon as one sees them. There are lots of interesting incidents they tell you that I would like to let you know, but I guess I had better wait until I see you.

WASPS FOR BREAKFAST

Just at present I wish Sue and I could be infused with a feeling of strength and security against wasps. Every morning at breakfast, on account of the jam, I fancy, we go through horrible scenes. Screams! Convulsions almost, rapid exits from the table and room are common and everyday occurrences on account of those awful beasts who come right on your plate. Just now, I've been cavorting all around the room trying to flee the pursuit of a persistent wasp. I can feel him somewhere in back of me, and I'm simply trembling all over for fear he'll land on some part of my anatomy while I'm not looking.

Probaby I'll be writing from Lagny next, —at home in the garden or in the little study.

III

FRANCE,
August 20, 1918.

Mes chers, chers Parents:

. . . All the things of interest one would like to share with others we may not tell

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about, for fear information may be gleaned therefrom. Usually it is possible to fall back on description of people and country,—but after one has been almost six months in the same spot where nothing changes much,—pretty nearly all topics are exhausted. . . Don't gather that I'm not satisfied and want to go back. I'd do the same thing over a hundred times, and stick it out to the finish. . . . Compared to what the boys are doing, we are living "the life o' Riley" as they say.

FINISH IT UP!

The spirit of our boys is absolutely wonderful. Even the most stolid looking fellow is fired with a patriotism and devotion that is almost unheard of. I saw a few of the boys at the base hospital here and all of them are fretting and chaffing to get well so as to go back into the mixup,—and yet they don't like it a bit. One can see and understand how little they like it, but they feel that it's the only place for them and they all want to finish up the whole thing as quickly as possible.

IV

France, August 28, 1918.

So many things have happened since I wrote you last that I know not where to begin.

In the first place, I am no longer at General Headquarters. Sue and I had the great fortune to be attached to the Headquarters of the First Army, for the time being at any rate.

It was the greatest thing,—the hurry, the flurry, and the mystery of it all,—for we were notified to pack and be ready to leave at a minute's notice only a few hours before we went. And then our baggage, my wheel included, was piled in a truck, and we in an automobile, and off we started,—where, we did not know. You have no idea what a peculiar sensation it is to go off somewhere,—just somewhere.

Anyhow, we are tremendously happy, because this is more like what we expected to do when we started out than our six months' stay at General Headquarters was. The nature of the work, the hours, the surroundings, the whole atmosphere is different. We are billetted out here, and have had the most exciting time battling with the usual inhabitants in a place of this sort. It is quite a change from our previous residence. There we had electric lights, all conveniences, hot and cold running water, et cetera. Here we have candles at night and we fetch the water from a pump in the rear in *breau-bro* (I don't know how to spell the word, but it's pronounced the way I've spelt it.) We are so awfully happy, though, that we are simply walking on clouds. We'll come down to earth sometime, I expect. But even so, we six girls are such a jolly and congenial bunch that whether we work or play, we feel that we are all together and pulling the same way. That is the one advantage over being as many as we were at Headquarters. It was getting to be very citified there; twenty-one girls working in a very busy office, dances every week, engagements in the evening, white gloves, fairy handkerchiefs,—not at all warlike, I assure you. Here we have a *toile cirée* instead of table cloth and in the evening we go to bed and share the *punaises*. . . .

This town is very quaint and, like all old *villes* in France, is walled in. As usual there are historical corners, remnants of old towers, crumbling walls, *et cetera*, besides a wonderful park with *allée* after *allée* of giant trees forming arches. It has that same peacefulness and quiet that a church has,—probably those archways affect me that way;—anyway, I always get that restful and secure feeling in those woods where the boughs of two rows of trees meet.

Unlike the place I was in last, this town is in a hollow, and to get anywhere one goes up instead of down. But the canal is still with us. Whether or not it is the same I do not know, but the water is just as calm and clear (sometimes), and the banks just as cool and inviting. Yesterday Sue and I went for a walk and we climbed a steep, steep hill, clearing barbed wire fences fully six feet high in a way not usually befitting well-behaved young ladies. But then, when we got to the tippy, tippy top and saw the whole town before us, with its church steeple standing out in the middle, the sun glinting on the red roofs, the patchwork gardens, and the hills stretching away and away, just like wave after wave, no amount of panting was too much. No matter where you go in this wonderful country, you just must stand still and hold your breath for the beauty of it all.

V

France, September 2, 1918.

Here it is a week already that we are in our new place.

This town is down in a valley and quite near the one that is so noted for the *madeleines*, and very near the one that is noted for the *confitures*. Unlike G. Hq., it is down in a valley and surrounded by hills. On account of its location it is very *mouvementée*, truck train after truck train, every kind of train, all day and all night long. Soldiers too, coming from this place and going to that place; but the funniest thing is that the boys can't believe we are American girls. Even when we say a few words in English, they seem to think that we picked up a smattering of *la langue Anglaise* and are French. . . . You see, an American girl is the last thing they expect to see up here, and consequently it doesn't come to their mind that we are "sisters in arms."

VI

France, September 5, 1918.

The night before last we all walked out to a French observation post and saw the Boche signals—such as sky rockets and flares and a few cannon flashes.

Just imagine being able to be up here where I can see these things. It's perfectly bully.

I have started a diary again because, being the only telephone girls in the zone of advance—at present, anyhow, our experiences will be unique for girls. You know it seems silly to keep notes on ordinary everyday happenings, and up to now our life has been almost normal.

No more days off, though, nor dances, nor dinner parties. We're in it *maintenant*, and it's work, hard work, all day and every day, and perhaps when emergencies arise, during the night. We're prepared for all of that, and are perfectly delighted to be able to share a little of this all-engrossing work. Besides, there isn't anything else to do out here. There is no place to go; at night it is pitch dark, and one can't go wandering around this place without bumping into something that's going somewhere,—and then we have a great time extricating ourselves.

I brought my wheel up here, but it is more of a nuisance than anything else, and I would like to get rid of it. One can't circulate very freely here,—I mean, go long distances, as at G. Hq. One hasn't the time, in the first place, and in the second place, I understand it isn't allowed to go out of a certain area. Besides, the rainy season is setting in.

The other day one of the girls and I went out for a ride, and it rained and it rained and it rained. To make matters worse, we got caught between two trains, an American machine gun and ammunition train going north and a French truck train going south. The French autos were driven by Chinese, and they simply leered at us. Our own boys thought we were French girls. Between the two, we were almost driven to distraction and the first chance we had we left the main road. The only way for us to go was up a narrow foot path to the canal, and we had to walk with our bicycles, but we didn't care if we had to walk a rope.

VII

France, September 10, 1918.

We have a new addition to our wardrobes since we've been in this town, and that is a *steel helmet* and a *gas mask*. If for no other reason than to lend a military appearance to our bedroom, we are glad to get them.

"Au Front"

THE boys are fond of saying that it is bad for them to stay too long in one place. That is why, as soon as they get settled in one place, they are ordered to go somewhere else.

Miss Helen E. Hill, of Seattle, Wash., suddenly receives her "marching orders," which she hails with great joy:

Somewhere in France.

MY OWN DEAR MOTHER:

I wish you were here so that I could tell you all I have been doing these past two weeks,—my experiences have been so intensely interesting. . . .

On Saturday I was operating the local board at Neufchateau when a French Central call came in. I answered as usual "*J'ecoute*," which means, "I am listening," or "Number, please?" A masculine voice said, "Is this Neufchateau?" I replied in the affirmative and he said he would like to speak to Miss Hill. Imagine my surprise! I said that I was that lady, and he proceeded to tell me that he was speaking for————who was coming down to see me the next day. I was delighted, of course, and said I should be right on deck to welcome him.

Sunday was my day off, fortunately, and I could spend several hours with him. There was considerable excitement in the air because three of us had been told that we were to leave in a day or so for a point much nearer the front. In fact, I thought we would probably leave on Sunday, so I was up bright and early, did a big washing, and some ironing, then dressed for dinner. ———— arrived at noon with two other Lieutenants, and took another operator and myself to the hotel for dinner. They had come down from the Front in a nice fast Fiat truck on an errand which they had not yet finished, so we were invited to go up to the place with them.

AMERICA IN FRANCE

The road led through some beautiful country, past some very quaint French villages with their red-tiled roofs and single church spire, and past many American encampments. Really, one sees far more Americans than French. France is a little

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America now, and sometimes I think the people resent our taking such complete possession of their little country, and one cannot blame them when one thinks how it would be to have our own country over-run with French or Italians. They welcome us, certainly, but there is a little feeling sometimes.

AN AVIATION CAMP

Well, at any rate, we enjoyed thoroughly the ride to this place, and upon arriving were piloted by ———— to an aviation field where we saw some beautiful aeroplanes. He knows all about them, as he is in the observer and machine gunner end of the air service, so he explained all the workings, incidentally giving us a few tales of his own experiences. I had seen many planes fly overhead, but had never closely investigated one of the animals, and was consequently much interested. The whole camp was very interesting,—all camouflaged, as it was quite near the front lines. On the return trip we were bowling along at 35 miles an hour when bang! we had a blowout. It was quickly repaired, however, and we sped on toward home, arriving just at dinner time. The boys had to leave immediately because they had a long ride ahead of them (five or six hours), so we said farewell, and waved goodbye as they went down the street.

Monday morning we were told that we would probably leave after dinner at night, but were not told where we were going. It was only by fishing around in different quarters that Adele and I figured out enough information to give us a good idea as to where we were going. Everyone is crazy to get nearer the Front.

I went back to work after lunch and forgot about leaving, I was so busy,—passing French Long Distance Calls. Then all of a sudden, I was told to plug up my board and run home for my baggage. It was then abbout 4 p. m. I dashed up the street, grabbed my remaining possessions, stuffed them into my handbag, and dashed madly back to the machine which was waiting to take us away.

In no time we had left our No. 731 behind in the dust and were speeding up north toward our new place. We were fascinated with the beautiful views and with the thought that every kilometre was taking us nearer the Front. It was nearly dinner time when we sighted the town, and our post signal officer greeted us with an invitation to dinner at his mess. It surely tasted good, cooked as it was by American boys, served nicely to the six girls and three officers.

IN THE WAR ZONE

After dinner we came back to our quarters and went to bed. I was all alone in a lovely big room in a big canopied bed (I felt like Louis XIV himself). We were very fortunate to have found a nice house with three big bedrooms, a small dining room and kitchen and bath room and a wash room besides. The rooms are all opening on a little courtyard with steps going up to the second floor.

As yet we have no permanent cook, but there is a very nice woman who cleans for us and cooks until we get another. We girls get our own coffee in the morning,—which is no hardship at all.

The office is small, but what care we? It is sandbagged! That makes up for anything we could possibly miss. I am perfectly happy here. The town is clean and very pretty; the surrounding hills are beautiful. The Meuse flows along gracefully, and there is a lovely canal on one side of the town. We girls are the object of considerable interest as we are the first American girls to appear in this town.

But, tell me, did you ever see anyone move around as I do? First at Tours, then at General Pershing's Headquarters, then nearer the Front, now way up, much, much nearer. Oh, I am delighted, because I feel it is a great honor to be here.

But Miss Hill was to experience more than the novelty of the idea of being near the Front, for in a letter, dated a day later, she says:

AN EXCITING NIGHT

I must not miss a choice bit which I added to my long list of experiences during the night. From a perfectly calm sleep I was awakened by excited talk and much noisy movement. My two room-mates were dashing around the room with towels in their hands, "swatting" the walls beside their bed. I was so sleepy I could scarcely see the clock, but I made out that it was 1:30 a. m., and I soon found out what they were doing. In polite French, it was *punaises* they were chasing.

I wish I could picture the scene,—these two, wildly excited figures all but shrieking, darkness outside, candle-light, and, to cap the climax, a lone cat outside in the courtyard howling its head off. The bedlam quieted down in a few minutes and they went back to bed.

What about me? I was on the opposite side of the room, my bed, fortunately, out away from the wall, and apparently "nothing doing" inside it. So I laughed and laughed at the whole performance.

It was not long before I heard them again, and again they quieted down. Then a third time they jumped out of bed, this time in desperation. They were bitten up and mad as hops. There was an extra room which the two girls had vacated yesterday on the ground floor, so they left in haste, found some clean sheets, and I heard nothing from them. I went off to sleep trusting to Providence that the wee beasties would leave me unmolested. They did. But to-day we vacate the offending room, a *peintre* is coming to scrape the walls and whitewash them; then we trust we will be permitted to fight only the Germans, not their allies.

Well, my dear family, you will see that I am really in the war zone and finding life interesting and amusing, and decidedly different from anything I have ever before met with.

I must run back to the office now, as my lunch hour is finished. Farewell for this time. I am *very* well and so happy,—much happier than I was at the last place even. A year from Christmas I shall be at home to hang up my stocking with Frank.

Animated Teddy Bears

MISS Louis Barbour, of New York City, in describing her trip across the Atlantic, says:

Band concerts or dancing on the deck usually filled in the afternoons. The dancing was really most amusing as the deck was often at a dangerous angle, and both men and girls were obliged to wear huge life-preservers, so that they looked like animated teddy bears.

Many little comments throw light on the daily life of the girls, which seems to be crammed full of work and pleasure. Miss Bertha Verkler, of Chicago, says:

In every place we were treated with the kindest consideration, but it felt mighty fine to get to our final post and really unpack our trunks and stay awhile.

We are living in an old-fashioned French mansion, I should say 250 years old, and attached to it is the most wonderful old garden! Here in the garden we spend most of our evenings. We are kept very busy all day long,—eight hour days, and we work every other Sunday. The life agrees with the girls and all are looking rosier than when they first arrived.

COL. CARTY GIVES THEM A TALK

Miss Barbour and I are here together for a time to do some instruction work. Isn't it wonderful that we can work together even a little while longer? I have seen so many of our girls,—Mrs. Crittenden, in Paris (by the way, she comes here to take charge very soon), Miss Snow, who is here now, Miss Marsh, who is here now, Raymonde Le Breton, and Miss Van Brunt. Elizabeth Macauley has been the fun of the crowd all the way over.

Colonel Carty gave us a talk yesterday. It surely seemed wonderful to see him here. The last time I saw him was in an elevator in our own building in New York.

Everyone is wonderfully cordial and kind to us all. Captain Stannard (a New England telephone man), is in charge of the telephone unit over here.

Gift to Girls in Gallia

A CHECK for $464.49 has been sent to Mrs. Henry P. Davison, treasurer of the War Work Council of the Young Women's Christian Association, as a gift from employees of the Bell System who subscribed to stock of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company under the Stock Purchase Plan.

In a letter accompanying the check it was requested that the money be used for the comfort or entertainment of the American girls serving as telephone operators in France, and the gift has been accepted with the assurance that the request will be complied with.

This sum was realized from the sale of the rights belonging to the stock held by the trustees for subscribing employees. It was found that to distribute this fund would give interested employees about a cent and a half, or less than the cost of distribution, as there are some thirty thousand employees who hold stock under the plan. Messrs. Arthur A. Masters, John H. Peck, and Frederick R. Stevenson, the trustees, therefore, acting in behalf of these thousands of scattered employees, have presented this undividable fund in one lump sum as a tribute of praise and admiration of the Bell System employees for the American telephone girls at the front.

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The Morgan Disaster

The Telephone Story in Connection with the Destruction of the Largest Shell-Loading Plant in the World

By J. T. Blake, Plant Department, New Jersey Division

AT 7:30 p. m. on Friday, October 4, an explosion of trinitrotoluol occurred in a building known as Unit 6-1-1 at the shell loading plant of the T. A. Gillespie Co., located at Morgan, N. J. The original explosion, while terrific in itself, caused a conflagration which resulted in a series of titanic explosions as the creeping flames reached the various loading units and store houses, until virtually nothing was left but smoking ruins of what had been considered the largest and most up-to-the-minute shell loading plant in the world.

It happened that Installation Foreman Sheldon and Installers Davis and Van Binsberger were doing some special plan work in the administration building at the Gillespie plant when the first explosion occurred. Realizing the importance of telephonic communication at such a time, Mr. Sheldon tried to get the operator at the private branch switchboard from one of the extension stations on which he had been working, but was unable to do so.

The complete wrecking of the T. A. Gillespie Company shell loading plant,—the largest in the world,—at Morgan, N. J., may be judged from this picture

The private branch switchboard (which consisted of five positions No. 600 P. B. X. type), was located in a detached building approximately one-half mile from the administration building, and Mr. Sheldon, knowing from what was happening that time was mighty precious just then, bundled his two men in the Company's Ford car which is assigned to him and drove through a veritable rain of projectiles of all kinds to the telephone building.

Upon arriving he found the place in darkness and the switchboard deserted, although no apparent material damage had been done to the building or its contents. A closer inspection disclosed the operator's telephone set plug still in the telephone jack of one of the positions, and a few minutes later the set itself, minus the plug, was found outside the building. While Mr. Sheldon and his men were testing out and verifying the switchboard equipment, the Gillespie Company's purchasing agent, Mr. Wyckoff, entered the building, and finding our men there, asked them if they would do their bit by operating the switchboard.

Mr. Sheldon then detailed both Davis and Van Binsberger to do the operating, while he answered the inquiry calls which were literally pouring in.

In the meantime, Wire Chief Mandeville, at his home in Rahway, had heard the explosion, and surmising what had happened, tried to get in touch with the Perth Amboy central office, but was unable to do so. He then called Repairman Heywood, at his home in Woodbridge, and instructed him to get out the Company's Ford car, garaged at Woodbridge, take his tools and material, and drive to Rahway, where he, Mandeville, would meet him.

Inside the "Death Line"

While waiting for Heywood, Repairman Jepson called Mr. Mandeville for orders, and advised Mandeville that the explosion was at the Gillespie plant. Mandeville instructed Jepson to stock up his Company-owned Ford car, and to proceed to the Gillespie Company plant at once, and do whatever he found necessary, stating that he would meet him at the telephone building at Gillespie's as soon as he could get there.

Jepson started out, and upon arriving at the entrance to the plant was refused admission by the guards, who told him that it was almost certain death to attempt to reach the telephone building. Jepson insisted, and the guards finally let him pass, saying that he did so at his own risk.

Upon arriving at the telephone building Jepson found Mr. Sheldon and his two men operating the switchboard, and as Mr. Mandeville and Heywood arrived a few minutes later, the three immediately set to work to clear up the numerous steady signals which Mr. Sheldon and his men had been unable to touch up to that time.

It was found that all of the trouble was due to the failure of an aerial cable which passed close by the exploded Unit 6-1-1, and the defective lines were opened up at the cross connecting rack until the cable ends could be cleared.

Mandeville and his men tried to get to this cable to clear up the broken ends, but were prevented from doing so by a squad of United States Coast Guards, who had established what might justly be termed a death line.

As it was impossible to do anything more at the time, and it was thought that the fire was under control, both Sheldon and Mandeville reported to Mr. Wyckoff, and volunteered their Ford cars for any use he might assign, as they saw that there were not sufficient vehicles in use to convey the injured to the hospital which had been established.

Mr. Wyckoff gladly accepted the offer, and Messrs. Sheldon, Jepson, and Heywood, each driving a Company Ford, assisted in the removal of the injured, the bringing of medical supplies, and the carrying of nearby residents out of the danger zone.

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Repairman H. C. Heywood and Installer R. Van Binsberger

About 11 p. m. the chief of the Gillespie plant fire department advised that the fire was under control, and further explosions improbable. Another attempt was then made to clear up the broken cable ends at the 6-1-1 Unit, but without success, as the Coast Guards would not permit any one to approach the unit which was still blazing fiercely.

About midnight, as the Gillespie authorities were satisfied that all further danger was past, Messrs. Sheldon, Jepson, and Davis went home, leaving Van Binsberger to assist the Gillespie night operator in taking care of the switchboard.

A Narrow Escape

Mr. Mandeville, however, felt that if the fire should get beyond control, it would necessitate abandoning the switchboard, and thought it would be well to provide for emergency service at the administration building, which was at a safe distance, so that, if the unexpected did happen, the Gillespie Company would not be without telephone service.

Fortunately, this plan could be put into effect quite readily, as the switchboard was originally located in the administration building, and the central office trunks were still routed through cables which terminated in this building. Arrangements were made accordingly, so that if it was found necesssary to abandon the switchboard, the trunk lines could be transferred directly to extension stations in the building, insuring telephone service on a direct-line basis, regardless of the switchboard.

About 12:30 a. m. on Saturday the fire chief advised Mr. Wyckoff that the water pressure was failing, and that the fire was gaining headway and endangering another loading unit, known as 6-3-3.

As the Unit 6-3-3 was dangerously near the telephone building, Mr. Wyckoff was told that in case the telephone building was destroyed it would still be possible to give direct-line service from the extension stations in the administration building, and he requested that this be done at once. This job was completed at 2 a. m., and at 2:06 the Unit 6-3-3 blew up.

Things began to happen rapidly after this, and at 2:15 a. m. Mr. Wyckoff gave orders to abandon the telephone building.

Van Binsberger stuck to his job at the switchboard until ordered out of the building, which order was none too soon, as a shell struck the rear of the building a few moments later, and a short time afterwards another shell went through the structure, practically demolishing it and setting it on fire.

Last Line of Defense Gone

As the administration building was our last line of defense for the preservation of telephone service, and as this service was now established at that point, Mr. Wyckoff informed Mr. Mandeville that there was nothing more that could be done, and at 2:30 a. m. Messrs. Mandeville and Van Binsberger left the place in a Gillespie Company automobile, and were soon beyond the danger zone.

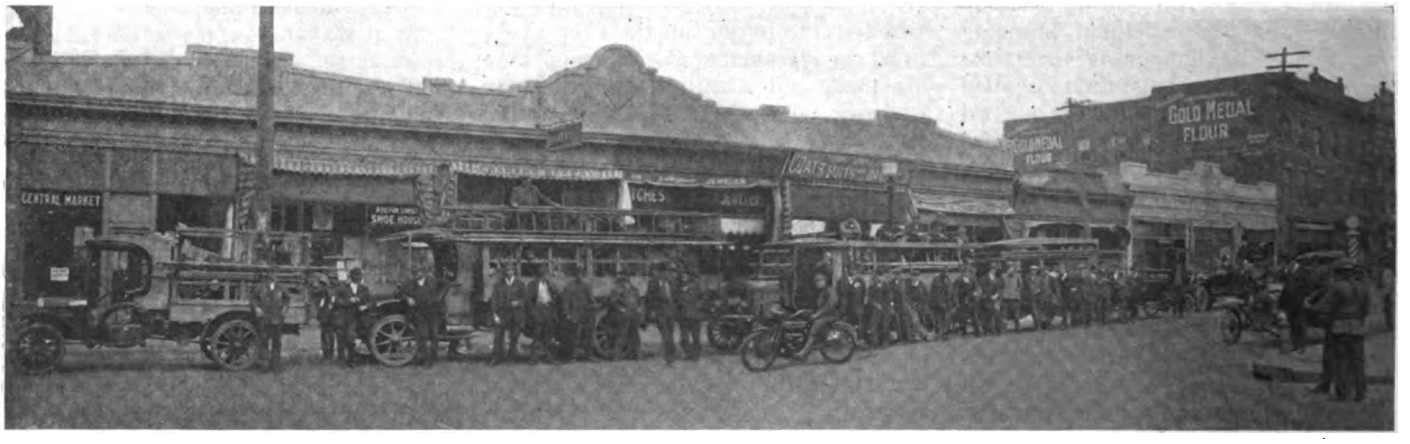
PIECES OF EXPLODED SHELLS PICKED UP IN THE ROAD

Chauffeur W. B. MacKay, Supervising Foreman W. L. Rogers, and Chauffeur John Saacke

In the meantime Heywood had been sent to the South Amboy central office to make an inspection of that equipment, and finding it intact, he then left for Perth Amboy with a load of refugees.

The explosions continued all through the night and the next day, as the flames licked up unit after unit, finally reaching the administration building, which was destroyed.

At 6:30 a. m. on Saturday, Foreman Sheldon went back to the plant, accompanied by the deputy fire chief of the Gillespie fire department and two Gillespie guards, but the exploding shells were falling so thickly that it was impossible to do any work, although a survey was made and arrangements completed to install temporary service on a direct-line basis in



Telephone Force held in readiness at Perth Amboy Saturday, October 6, for emergency work, while waiting for the expected explosions of the great TNT magazines

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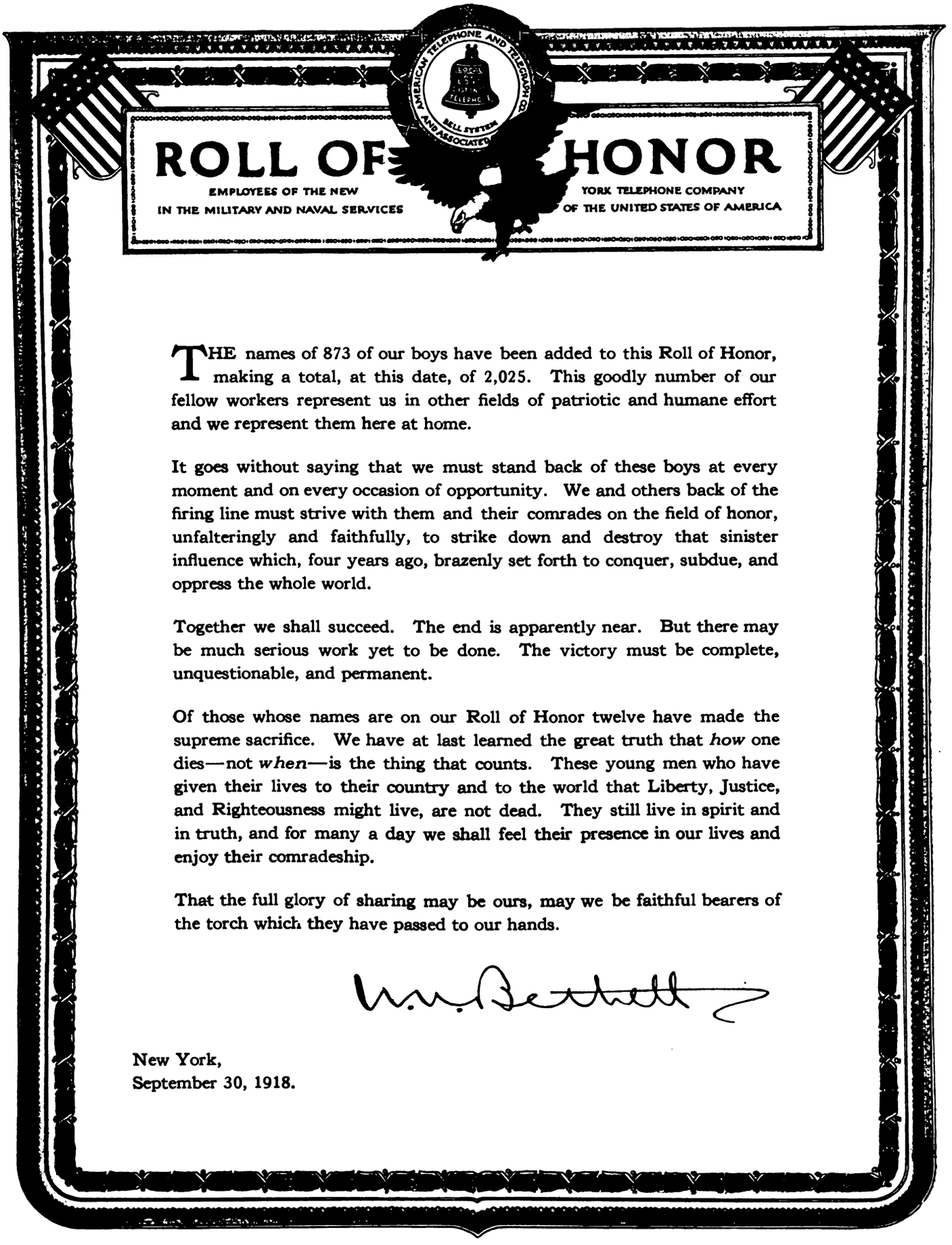
ROLL OF HONOR
EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CO.
BELL SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED

THE names of 873 of our boys have been added to this Roll of Honor, making a total, at this date, of 2,025. This goodly number of our fellow workers represent us in other fields of patriotic and humane effort and we represent them here at home.

It goes without saying that we must stand back of these boys at every moment and on every occasion of opportunity. We and others back of the firing line must strive with them and their comrades on the field of honor, unfalteringly and faithfully, to strike down and destroy that sinister influence which, four years ago, brazenly set forth to conquer, subdue, and oppress the whole world.

Together we shall succeed. The end is apparently near. But there may be much serious work yet to be done. The victory must be complete, unquestionable, and permanent.

Of those whose names are on our Roll of Honor twelve have made the supreme sacrifice. We have at last learned the great truth that *how* one dies—not *when*—is the thing that counts. These young men who have given their lives to their country and to the world that Liberty, Justice, and Righteousness might live, are not dead. They still live in spirit and in truth, and for many a day we shall feel their presence in our lives and enjoy their comradeship.

That the full glory of sharing may be ours, may we be faithful bearers of the torch which they have passed to our hands.

W. W. Bethell

New York,
September 30, 1918.

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division

Adams, T.
Ahern, E. F.
Albright, R. E.
Alder, G. W.
Allison, H. H.
Altree, E. D.
Anderson, A. E.
Anderson, A. S.
Anderson, E.
Andrews, E. F.
Andrews, E. P.
Appleby, E. D.
Archer, C. T.
Archer, E. F.
Arendes, A. J.
Arnold, L. W.
Atkinson, A.
Audley, F. A.
Bailey, H.
Balmanno, W. E.
Banks, J. H.
Barlow, E. F.
Barnes, J. R.
Bauer, C. F.
Bauer, G. J.
Bauer, W. C.
Beck, C. F.
Beck, G. F.
Becker, A. J.
Beer, C. P.
Bell, J. S.
Bell, N. S.
Bell, R. J.
Benigno, J.
Bennewitz, H. E.
Berthold, O. H.
Bertine, A. M.
Bertsch, W. F.
Besserer, F.
Bickel, W. L.
Binny, C. S.
Black, D. N.
Blackburn, R. F.
Blakeley, C. R.
Blauth, J. J.
Bloomfield, E. J.
Bogue, J. M.
Bolger, A.
Booth, C. A.
Booth, F.
Bourgarde, J. J.
Bowker, J. W.
Boyd, A. R.
Boyle, J. J.
Boyle, W. C.
Bradley, R. A.
Braveman, M. C.
Brearley, J. G.
Breithaupt, E. E.
Brennan, J. J.
Brennan, J. B. F
Briston, L. P.
Britton, A. E.
Brown, J. R.
Brown, W. R.
Buchan, H. J.
Buckley, J. J.
Bucknell, H. M.
Burns, D. P.
Buteux, R.
Butt, H. P.
Byrnes, P. F.
Caldwell, D. M.
Calligan, J. P.
Campiglia, M.
Canfield, V. F.
Cannon, W. A.
Caponi, L.
Carlson, A. E.
Carlson, H. L.
Carlson, W. A.
Cashman, R. F.
Chambers, J. R.
Chrisholm, T. J.
Churchill, L. R.
Clark, L. E.
Clark, V. D.
Clayton, F. W.
Clever, F.
Cochran, C. O.
Cohoon, R. A.
Coleman, E. M.
Collins, T. F.
Conforti, J.
Conklyn, R. D.
Convey, J. E.
Costain, H. H.
Crawford, F. J.
Crysler, C.
Cunningham, R. J.
Curtis, H. M.
Dally, H. E.
Dammes, F. C.
Davey, C. H.
Davis, J. F.
Dawson, J. R.
de Gogorza, E. M.
Deitch, J. P.
Delaney, J. J.
DeVizio, J.
Donofrio, N. P.
Dooling, J. J.
Dowd, H. F.
Doyle, W. E.
Duessel, A.
Durand, V. A.
Eckert, A. W.
Ehrlich, A. L.
Elliot, P.
Elliott, T. K.
Ellis, E.
Ellwood, B. M.
Ellwood, W. F.
Elmiger, F. J.
English, J. J.
Enright, J. A.
Erickson, F. J.
Everitt, I. D.
Fanning, H. J.
Farrell, B. J.
Farrell, C. L.
Farrell, V. L.
Favaro, T.
Feeney, T.
Finnerty, J. F.
Fitch, J.
Flaherty, P. J.
Foster, A. W.
Foster, D. H.
Francfort, L. P.
Furrer, J. F.
Fussell, A. C.
Gannon, E. J.
Gargan, A. J.
Garwig, C. L.
Gibbons, G.
Gibbs, M. J.
Gillespie, E. J.
Gillies, G. C.
Gilligan, R. J.
Ginther, L.
Gladden, L. C.
Gleason, E. J.
Goggin, F. J.
Golding, F.
Gordon, G. B.
Gray, A. J.
Grefrath, W. C.
Grimshaw, J. C.
Grogan, W. R.
Gunther, W.
Haas, G. F.
Hadfield, H. F.
Hageny, J. H.
Hanratty, E. M.
Hansen, R. P. J.
Harrison, F. J.
Hassler, F.
Hayias, P. J.
Hazel, J. E.
Hefferon, J. C.
Hellert, O. F.

To September 30, 1918

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EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division (Continued)

Helms, G. F.
Hennessy, J. L.
Herley, W. J.
Herring, W. H.
Hettler, J. A.
Higgins, W. H.
Hill, J. M.
Hoatson, H.
Hoctor, H. E.
Hotaling, N. L.
Hottendorf, G. J.
Houstetter, A. L.
Hoyler, W. A.
Huber, A. L.
Hulsberg, A.
Hulsman, C. J.
Hunt, G. A.
Hunter, F. R.
Isler, F. J.
Jackson, W.
Jewett, W. H.
Jones, W. H.
Jordan, R. L.
Kaiser, W. W.
Kallert, J. A.
Kane, F. G.
Kay, S.
Kelly, P. J.
Kennedy, J. F.
Kennedy, W. C.
Kenny, J. F.
Keogh, W. A.
Kerwer, G.
Kieran, A.
Kiernan, E. G.
Kidd, G. W., Jr.
Kilmartin, J. S.
Klein, C. A.
Klein, G. D.
Knox, W. F.
Koebler, G.
Kohrs, W. R.
Kolbeck, P. H. F.
Kowatsch, F. L.
Kriete, O. A.
Kronfield, H. E.
Krouse, A. J.
Lalor, T. F.
Landon, E. J.
Lane, W. R.
Lange, F. G., Jr.
Lee, C. H.
Leonard, J. D.
Lewis, H. W.
Lind, H. J.
Litchfield, R. B.
Lockington, J. T.
Logan, E. A.
Loughney, M. J.
Lovett, J. B.
Lown, H. J.
Luckel, W.
Lundstrom, J. V.
Lundy, A. L.
McCabe, J. L.
McCauley, F. J.
McCuaig, J. M.
McDonald, J. F.
McDonald, M.
McDonald, R. A.
McEachren, G.
McElroy, T.
McGann, F. J.
McGarry, C. L.
McGinnis, T. A.
McGowan, F. H.
McGrath, T. E.
McKay, J.
McKeever, W.
McKenna, J.
McKeon, J. J.
McLaughlin, R. G.
McNally, P.
McNeely, J. F.
McNeill, J.
McSweeney, F. X.
MacDonald, E. R.
Mac Garva, A. R.
Mackintosh, J.
Mackley, J. E.
Maggi, G. J.
Magnuson, G.
Maher, E. L.
Maher, J. F.
Maher, M. E.
Mahoney, W. J.
Maier, W. T.
Manger, C.
Mangler, W. E.
Marble, C. R.
Marquart, W.
Martin, D. J.
Martin, F. X.
Mayer, J. F.
Meehan, J. P.
Meissner, A. F.
Miles, L.
Miller, A. G.
Miller, G. O.
Morgan, W. A.
Mott, T.
Mulcahy, D. J.
Mullen, E. J.
Mullen, F. L.
Murphy, H. T.
Murray, J. J.
Neuhauser, R. J.
Neuman, H. C.
Nicholls, F. W.
Nolan, W. P., Jr.
Norris, A. T.
Norrito, N.
Nyman, F. I.
O'Brien, M. T.
O'Connor, M. B.
O'Hagan, P.
O'Leary, G. J.
Olsen, O. E.
Olsen, C. S.
O'Neill, V. F.
O'Niel, J. F.
O'Shaughnessy, M.
O'Toole, J. S.
Pahl, F. H.
Palmer, H. L.
Palmero, L.
Parkes, H. D.
Parrington, N. C.
Parker, W. J.
Pearson, W. M.
Peterson, I. C.
Pierson, E. O.
Poppe, F. W.
Powers, J. F.
Price, C. J.
Ransom, R. L.
Rechel, P. A.
Regan, J. J.
Regan, S.
Reibel, W.
Reilly, E. J.
Reilly, W. T.
Riley, W. H.
Ritter, R.
Roberts, G. E.
Robinson, W. J.
Roche, J.
Rodgers, E. H.
Rogalinski, C. J.
Rosener, A. G.
Rotman, L. M.
Russell, J. M.
Ryan, J. J.
Salisbury, P. T.
Samuelson, A.
Sassano, A.
Schaeffer, O. M.
Scheiner, C. G.
Schenck, L. C.
Schmidle, A. P.
Schmitt, W. A.
Schneider, D.
Schmitzler, G. R.
Schoett, G. C., Jr.
Schroeppel, H. H.
Schultz, F. J.

To September 30, 1918

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EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Manhattan—Bronx—Westchester Division (Continued)

Schuster, P. F.
Schwab, J. H.
Schweitzer, A.
Scupin, J. O.
Seitz, J. J.
Settembre, T.
Seybolt, R.
Shadler, S. A.
Sherman, J. W.
Simonson, J. Q.
Slagle, W. T.
Smith, F. H.
Smith, R. G.
Smith, W. H.
Smith, W. J.
Speer, H. R.
Spencer, R. A.
Spindler, A. W. C.
Spinnler, A. J.
Stephens, W. E.
Stephenson, J.
Stewart, H.
Stoll, H.
Stone, F. S.
Stottman, W.
Stryker, H. B.
Sullivan, J. E.
Sullivan, J. M.
Swankie, A. B.
Talbot, W. H.
Templeton, J.
Terry, E. F.
Thamson, O. W.
Thoet, W. G.
Tobey, D. M.
Tobin, W. E.
Tobin, W. J.
Towey, M. R.
Turner, W. S.
Uhl, C. D.
Vagis, G.
Van Dyke, T. F.
Van Etten, F. L.
Van Sickle, R.
Vreeland, W.
Wade, J. E.
Walker, C. L.
Walsh, J. F.
Walters, C.
Walther, W. J.
Wall, C. E.
Ward, F. R.
Ward, J. F.
Ward, J. S.
Weidowke, J. S.
Werner, W. H.
White, W. A.
Whittaker, H. A.
Wiedner, J. W.
Wilks, A. F.
Winant, A. A.
Winham, C.
Wiseman, J. J.
Wohlers, E. F., Jr.
Woods, J. L. B.
Woolsey, H. E.
Worthington, H.
Wright, H. H.
Wyman, C. H.
Wynne, T.
Yokel, F.
Zweifel, G. J., Jr.

Long Island Division

Ackerly, H. R.
Ahearn, T. F.
Ahlfeldt, O. E.
Anderson, E.
Anderson, R. J.
Bader, F.
Bauer, H. J.
Beck, F. H.
Beers, J. S.
Bello, M.
Bente, F.
Bernard, H. J.
Biederbeck, L. H.
Bolton, P. S.
Bolwell, R. F.
Brando, A.
Braun, A. C.
Breen, W.
Brodegard, C. E.
Brown, J. I.
Brush, H. E.
Brust, J. A.
Buery, A. C.
Bull, L. C.
Bundstein, C.
Busch, F. P.
Campbell, F., Jr.
Campiglia, F.
Caulfield, W. A.
Clarke, H.
Coleman, H. J.
Conti, A.
Coppinger, T. S.
Coughlin, T. C.
Crook, H. T.
Demmerle, W. A.
Dougherty, J. J.
Doyle, E. P.
Doyle, J. F.
Draeger, L. F.
Dryer, L. A.
Eberling, F. M.
Eldredge, P. J.
Engelhaupt, E. A.
English, T.
Erdtman, P. R.
Ewoldt, L. E.
Flandreau, W. A.
Flannery, A.
Fox, J. A.
Gaiser, F. W.
Gill, E. A.
Gottschalk, W. R.
Graves, W. J.
Groeninger, G. A.
Grotz, W.
Hage, F. J.
Hamill, F.
Harris, H.
Harris, L. G.
Harvey, T. J.
Hessler, H. W.
Hickey, J. J.
Hilbert, W.
Hoffman, I. A.
Hollender, W.
Howell, A. G.
Hudson, G.
Hudson, H. H.
Hughes, W.
Huttman, J.
Inness, W. H.
Johannesen, B. M.
Johnson, G. W.
Jones, J.
Jones, R.
Kastenbein, H. A.
Kiermaier, L.
Kilroy, E. L.
Kurz, T. L.
Larsen, A. L.
Larsen, L.
Lawson, H. C.
Leary, R. E.
Lennie, W. B.
Leonard, J.
Lesher, E. W.
L'Hommedieu, W.
Lindsey, J. W.
Linthwaite, G. E.
Love, W.
Ludwig, C. J.

To September 30, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Long Island Division—(Continued)

Lynch, C. F.
McCann, G.
McCarthy, J. F.
McCarthy, J. T.
McCullough, D. G.
McGowin, B. H.
McLaughlin, W. J.
McLean, E.
McManus, J. R.
McNamara, W. F. P.
McSweeney, E. J.
MacDougal, M. R.
Maurer, G. L.
Mayer, F.
Maynard, F. H.
Merkle, F.
Miller, A., Jr.
Moller, J. A.
Morris, W. J.
Mullen, T. F.
Mullineaux, C.
Nelsen, A. F.
Nichols, A. L.
Nicols, C. W.
O'Connor, C. E.
O'Donnell, J. D. J.
Ogilvie, D.
Olsen, A.
O'Rourke, J. F.
Pearce, E. H., Jr.
Perkins, R.
Peters, A. M.
Pierrepont, R.
Profheter, H. H.
Quigley, T.
Regan, T. A.
Rhatigan, J. W.
Riley, H. J.
Roesch, J. P.
Roeseman, G.
Rossi, A. A.
Rusch, F.
Ryan, J. J.
Salmon, A. G.
Sammis, H. K.
Schaer, W.
Schmitt, J. J.
Schoenfield, P. J.
Seaman, H. S.
Seckel, G. W.
Sehn, A.
Sloane, E. N.
Sneden, E. C.
Sonner, E. B.
Stack, E. A.
Stansbury, C. T.
Steneck, J. H.
Strickland, G. A.
Stuart, H. W.
Thompson, A. N.
Tobin, W.
Valentine, LeR.
Vianest, G.
Walker, A. H.
Walker, G. J.
Wall, T. C.
Walters, F. P.
Ware, A. H.
Wareing, H. G.
Weisbecker, C. F.
Winning, A.
Wolfer, O. C.
Wright, F. N.
Yates, W. J.
Zimmerman, E. H.

New Jersey Division

Albers, R. M.
Anderson, C.
Archer, A. H.
Archer, J. C.
Arlett, J. R.
Bangham, P. G.
Barnes, J. P.
Bartsch, W. W.
Bastedo, W. M.
Beckler, E.
Bennett, G. O.
Bergkamp, H. J.
Blair, G.
Blake, R. C.
Bognar, J. W.
Borrell, G. W.
Bradley, F. J.
Breese, H.
Brodie, K. W.
Brubaker, R. S.
Buehler, W. F.
Carey, Jr., J.
Carroll, J.
Casey, W. A.
Cavanagh, W. J.
Christensen, G. S.
Clair, W. B.
Cleeland, W. J.
Coll, F.
Conroy, J. J.
Cook, B. T.
Cook, N.
Costello, P. P.
Crane, C.
Crane, F. S.
Creswick, P. D.
Cuddihy, J. R.
Daggitt, L.
Daley, J. H.
Danskin, B. S.
Dempsey, M.
Denike, J.
Desmond, J.
Desmond, M. J.
Donnelly, G. P.
Donnelly, J. C.
Dotson, S. C.
Duske, H.
Ekartd, P. H.
Emmons, G. D.
Essex, F. W.
Faulkner, F. J.
Fecher, G.
Finley, P. J.
Flatley, M.
Flood, C. B.
Ford, D. H.
Fraebel, J. E.
Fredrickson, P.
Frey, E. A.
Fridel, A.
Gerquest, L. J.
Gillen, S. M.
Gobber, G.
Grube, E. W.
Harty, J. F.
Hasson, W.
Hauer, A.
Hayden, E. A.
Heisler, E.
Heitmann, R. F.
Higgins, G. J.
Hunter, T. F.
Jackel, F.
Johnson, P. E.
Kelly, T. J.
Knox, J. W.
Kochka, G. T.
Krapf, G. J.
Kraus, J.
Labentz, B. W.
Landers, J. T.
Lee, C. M.
Laycock, A.
Loree, W. W.
Lown, C. S., Jr.
McCarthy, J. E.
McCarthy, J. J.

To September 30, 1918

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

New Jersey Division—(Continued)

McCormick, J.
McEvoy, J. A.
McGookin, C.
McKiernan, Ralph A.
Mainey, P. M.
Martin, F. E.
Martin, J. J.
Miller, C. H.
Mitzenius, G. J.
Mondana, C.
Murphy, H. J.
Naughton, M. F., Jr.
Nicholls, T. E.
Nicholls, W. R.
Oxner, A. G.
Parks, H.
Patton, J. G.
Paxton, R. R.
Petzinger, A., Jr.
Potter, H. B.
Reuss, F.
Rizzo, T.
Ruby, P.
Schmidt, H. J.
Scholl, W., Jr.
Schuldt, H. H.
Schwartz, H.
Shindell, J. W.
Simon, J. H.
Simone, A.
Slaman, F. P.
Smith, J. J.
Smith, W. A.
Sorensen, G. L.
Sprague, R. C.
Stange, G. S.
Sterr, C. M.
Stolzenthaler, G. C.
Strong, H. J.
Thompson, F.
Tierney, R. J.
Van Cleve, W. S.
Waer, C. D.
Wall, W. A.
Whelan, W. A.
White, J. J.
Wilson, L. A.
Woodhead, B. N.
Zurheide, C. F.

Hudson Division

Ayers, E. C.
Baer, J. F.
Brown, C. J.
Bull, E. N.
Cadoo, H.
Carey, J.
Cornelly, W. J.
Cunningham, J. R.
Curtis, R.
Davenport, H. W.
De Voe, M. W.
Ennis, T. F.
Fogarty, D. C.
Hall, A. M.
Harrison, W. B.
Herrick, L. E.
Hungerford, W.
Hurd, W. E.
James, J. D.
Kline, H. L.
Lape, O. P.
Lockman, S. J.
McManaway, J. J.
Malone, F. E.
Rand, E. C.
Roohan, F. J.
Sill, W. H.
Simcox, E. H.
Slavin, E.
Smith, H. W.
Snyder, W. E.
Stott, T. H.
Sunkes, W. J.

Central Division

Ainley, A. D.
Bell, D. T.
Bragg, J. H.
Brazell, E. J.
Brennan, E. P.
Brownell, T. C.
Bush, E. W.
Cholet, F. W.
Connelly, A. L.
Coren, B. F.
DeWolfe, F. W.
Doxtater, F.
Dudley, C. S.
Dunn, W. B.
Gordon, E. C.
Hall, N. W.
Hall, W. B.
Healy, L. C.
Helfert, J. F.
Hirsh, H. C.
Hubbard, C. S.
Kennedy, H. J.
Lewis, W. R.
Listman, R. F.
MacInnis, D. S.
Maroney, J. J.
Murray, W. J.
Parsons, B. A.
Pattison, C.
Peer, C. C.
Putterbaugh, R.
Rowe, W. D.
Ryan, F. J.
Sexsmith, H. P.
Shattuck, S. G.
Slocum, C. G.
Supple, T. C.
Sutton, E. A.
Sweet, G. M.
Washburn, H. B.
Young, S. P.

To September 30, 1918

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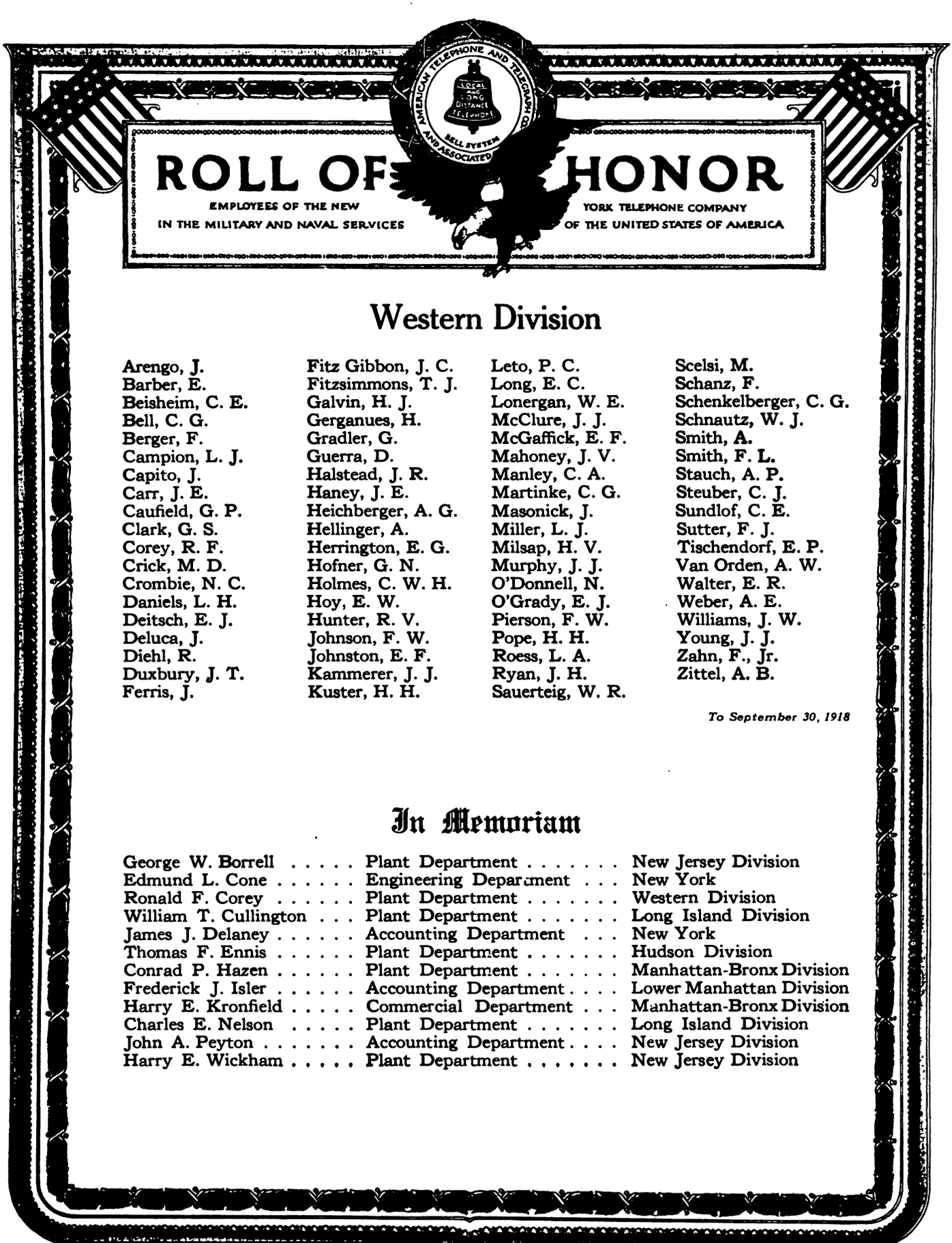

ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Western Division

Arengo, J.
Barber, E.
Beisheim, C. E.
Bell, C. G.
Berger, F.
Campion, L. J.
Capito, J.
Carr, J. E.
Caufield, G. P.
Clark, G. S.
Corey, R. F.
Crick, M. D.
Crombie, N. C.
Daniels, L. H.
Deitsch, E. J.
Deluca, J.
Diehl, R.
Duxbury, J. T.
Ferris, J.
Fitz Gibbon, J. C.
Fitzsimmons, T. J.
Galvin, H. J.
Gerganues, H.
Gradler, G.
Guerra, D.
Halstead, J. R.
Haney, J. E.
Heichberger, A. G.
Hellinger, A.
Herrington, E. G.
Hofner, G. N.
Holmes, C. W. H.
Hoy, E. W.
Hunter, R. V.
Johnson, F. W.
Johnston, E. F.
Kammerer, J. J.
Kuster, H. H.
Leto, P. C.
Long, E. C.
Lonergan, W. E.
McClure, J. J.
McGaffick, E. F.
Mahoney, J. V.
Manley, C. A.
Martinke, C. G.
Masonick, J.
Miller, L. J.
Milsap, H. V.
Murphy, J. J.
O'Donnell, N.
O'Grady, E. J.
Pierson, F. W.
Pope, H. H.
Roess, L. A.
Ryan, J. H.
Sauerteig, W. R.
Scelsi, M.
Schanz, F.
Schenkelberger, C. G.
Schnautz, W. J.
Smith, A.
Smith, F. L.
Stauch, A. P.
Steuber, C. J.
Sundlof, C. E.
Sutter, F. J.
Tischendorf, E. P.
Van Orden, A. W.
Walter, E. R.
Weber, A. E.
Williams, J. W.
Young, J. J.
Zahn, F., Jr.
Zittel, A. B.

To September 30, 1918

In Memoriam

George W. Borrell	Plant Department	New Jersey Division
Edmund L. Cone	Engineering Department	New York
Ronald F. Corey	Plant Department	Western Division
William T. Cullington	Plant Department	Long Island Division
James J. Delaney	Accounting Department	New York
Thomas F. Ennis	Plant Department	Hudson Division
Conrad P. Hazen	Plant Department	Manhattan-Bronx Division
Frederick J. Isler	Accounting Department	Lower Manhattan Division
Harry E. Kronfield	Commercial Department	Manhattan-Bronx Division
Charles E. Nelson	Plant Department	Long Island Division
John A. Peyton	Accounting Department	New Jersey Division
Harry E. Wickham	Plant Department	New Jersey Division

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Oui! Nous Les Aurons . . .
—From *Le Monde Illustré*, Paris

Yes, We Shall Have Them . . .

NOT many years ago an Alsatian schoolmaster was thrown into prison for two years by the Kaiser for dedicating his book "To the People Who Never Forget!" because Germany was insisting to the whole world that the people of the stolen provinces had become thoroughly German and had no desire to go back to France.

But Alsace-Lorraine never forgot; neither did France. To-day the French and their American brothers are forcing an entry into the conquered provinces at the point of the cannon. When St. Mihiel fell, the people in the reconquered territory waved their tattered French flags, so long concealed from the Germans, from every window and housetop.

It seems almost as though the French foresaw what was about to happen, for many weeks ago there appeared in a French magazine a drawing of a French soldier with one hand on the shoulder of an American and the other pointing toward the beloved Alsace-Lorraine. Beneath the picture were his words to his comrade, a translation of which is given:

In view of Alsace, and hand in hand, the valiant American soldier and the intrepid soldier of France feel their hearts beat in unison under the sway of a faith henceforth firm in confidence in the next victory.

Having fought side by side, and shared the same perils, they have quickly learned to know each other better, and to love each other better. With the frankest sympathy, the most profound understanding, and also the most fervent enthusiasm, our heroic warriors have taken into their ranks these noble and generous brothers in arms who have crossed the sea to assure the success of our cause by making right and liberty triumph. Thanks to them, we shall soon have our turn, so hoped for, so desired, and, while awaiting it, the same cry arises to their lips and to ours: "Yes! We shall have them." . . . [Translation from *Le Monde Illustré*, Paris.]

The Americans are proud of the confidence and love expressed by the French, and are working with them heart and soul "for the great cause of Right and Liberty."

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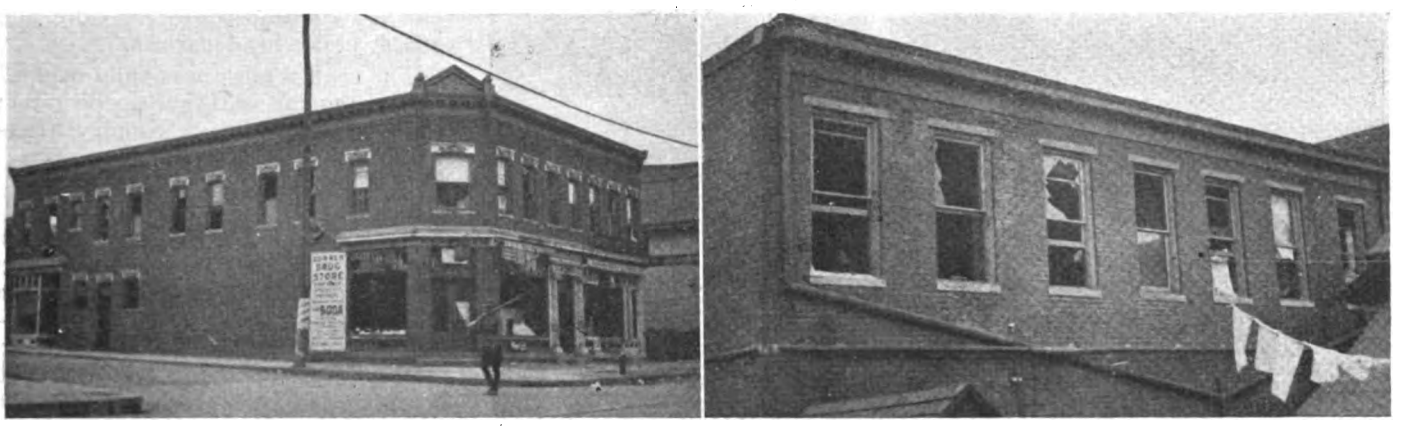

Front and rear of building at South Amboy in which our Central Office is located. Not a window left intact. A stray dog found his way into the building and may be seen in the window at the extreme left, rear view

one of the officers' quarters on the outskirts of the plant as soon as it was comparatively safe to do so.

This service was established on Sunday, while the shells were still falling at intervals.

Installations in Record Time

In the meantime the Gillespie Company had established a temporary office on High Street, Perth Amboy, and emergency telephone service was furnished them Saturday afternoon.

By Monday they had found temporary quarters in the Raritan building, in Perth Amboy, and a rush order for one 40-line position, 4 trunks, 10 tie trunks, and 25 extension stations was passed at 4 p. m. This equipment was installed and working complete at 11 p. m. the same day.

Monday afternoon it was decided by the Gillespie Company to restore the telephone service at the plant, as far as could be done, and work was begun at once on the switchboard installation, consisting of two positions No. 4 P. B. X. type, which were placed in one of the few buildings that had escaped destruction. This equipment, with 10 trunks, 6 tie trunks, and 68 extension stations was connected that night and put into operation the next morning.

As all the residents of South Amboy had been ordered out of the town early Saturday morning, and many of the Perth Amboy residents were not permitted to re-enter their homes, it devolved upon the American Red Cross to see that the refugees were fed and otherwise cared for. This in itself was a prodigious job, and would have been well-nigh impossible without the telephone service which was furnished as fast as the Red Cross people could assign relief stations.

In all, a total of thirty-five direct-line stations and three private lines to New York were installed on Sunday and Monday in Perth Amboy, while

In the bedroom of the South Amboy Central Office the plaster was cracked and pieces fell on the pillow

seventeen direct-line stations were installed at different points in South Amboy and connected to the Perth Amboy central office, as on Sunday the South Amboy office was not giving service. The connecting of this emergency equipment in the danger zone was full of thrills, but fortunately no one was injured. Although two Ford cars were struck by pieces of exploding shells, no damage was done beyond a few dents on the metal bodies.

Happenings in the Barred Zone

A few interesting results of the explosion might well be cited at this time:

At Perth Amboy the telephone service was continued as usual through the entire explosion period, and it was noted that a large number of steady signals were due to telephone receivers being blown off the receiver hooks, overturned desk stands, and the like. As the buildings were, for the most part, deserted, and the guards instructed not to permit any but the authorized ones to enter, we found it impossible to do much to alleviate this condition until arrangements were made with the U. S. Coast Guard for men to accompany our repairmen. As stated before, most of the buildings were deserted, but this did not prove much of a handicap, even where the doors were locked, as it was only necessary to step through the broken windows and door panes in order to gain access.

As the electric power at Keyport, N. J., was shut off, due to the danger of crossed wires after the explosion, and Saturday being the regular day for charging the Keyport central office batteries, the heavy telephone traffic incident to the explosion caused their rapid depletion, and for a time it looked as though the Keyport central office might go out of commission. Dry batteries were resorted to as a temporary expedient, and at 9:30 a. m., Saturday, Division Equipment Engineer Barnes ordered that a type M-3 Western Electric generator at New Brunswick be demounted and sent to Keyport by automobile, where it was set up and operated successfully, using the rear wheel of a Ford car as a prime mover, thus enabling the recharge of the almost depleted battery.

On Saturday, while Foreman Sheldon was driving his Ford through a portion of the Gillespie plant, an explosion lifted his car bodily, turning it partly around on the road and stalling the engine. Considerable difficulty was experienced in cranking up the engine afterward, as the force of the explosion apparently expelled all the gasoline from the carbureter.

On Friday night, when Repairman Jepson was taking two army chaplains to what might be called the front-line trenches, a shell exploded near the car and stalled the engine. When Jepson had cranked up he found one of his erstwhile passengers under the car,

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The Women's Motor Corps worked ceaselessly, day and night, rescuing the homeless, carrying the wounded to hospitals and Red Cross stations, and serving out hot drinks and food to the destitute people, the other workers, and the soldiers and sailors on guard

while a doleful voice inquired whether it was all over.

Restoring Service

Our New York-Washington line, carrying sixty wires, was built along Cheesequake Road on the west side of the Gillespie properties. Fifteen sections of this line were destroyed, the poles in some instances being reduced to the proverbial firewood, while others with cross-arms and wires were blown one hundred and fifty feet distant.

Line construction gangs had been organized and held in readiness for any emergencies that might arise, and when word was received at 5 a. m. on Saturday that the Washington line was out, gangs were started for Morgan, but they were held up by the guards at Perth Amboy on the north and Keyport on the south, the orders being not to allow anything to pass these points. Up to this time no one knew what had really happened to the line, but at 4 p. m., Saturday, Supervising Foreman Leahy obtained a special permit to pass through the barred zone. He drove along the entire length of the line at this point, and was the only man to venture into this part of the danger zone that day. His trip was both dangerous and exciting, as shells were exploding within a hundred and fifty feet of him, and one shell passed about forty feet over his head. However, these little things did not deter him, and he obtained the desired information as to the conditions of the line.

During Saturday morning Supervising Foreman Rogers attempted to go over the line, but at that time it was too dangerous, and he was advised not to do so.

By Sunday morning, October 6, things had subsided to such an extent that we were able to send in three gangs, and by 7 p. m. that day the line was O. K.

THE following describes local traffic conditions in South Amboy, Keyport, and Perth Amboy, the central offices nearest the Gillespie plant:

South Amboy

Three operators were on duty at South Amboy when the first explosion occurred at the Gillespie plant. They were Miss Regina Holton, night chief operator, Miss Catherine Cannon, and Miss Agnes Cannon. Immediately Miss Elizabeth Gilchrist, the day chief operator, reported at the office, and these four young women stuck to their work at the switchboard (although they had been warned, together with the rest of the population, to leave town), until 4 o'clock Saturday morning.

At this hour G. W. Beebe, assistant district traffic manager, and Weston Williams, chief traffic inspector, New Jersey Division, arrived in an automobile and, persuading the girls to leave, took their places at the switchboard, where they remained until half-past 6 o'clock Saturday morning, when the gas mains in the building burst and forced them to leave also. They then went to Perth Amboy, where they remained on duty all day Saturday.

There Williams secured two plant men, who went back with him to South Amboy and turned off the gas which was flooding the building. Williams then undertook to give service through the switchboard, but he was soon compelled to leave the building again. South Amboy was not left without telephone service, however, as stations were connected on trunks so outgoing calls could be made, one at hospitals, one at a convenient grocery store, and one at police headquarters.

The central office was fully manned by the regular staff, and in operation again at 1:45 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Keyport

Keyport was also under martial law during the period of the explosions and the consequent excitement. With the exception of half an hour, however, the central office continued to give service without interruption. About half-past 7 o'clock Saturday morning everybody was ordered out of the building, but after waiting on the sidewalk for a while, the girls returned to their duties, notwithstanding the imminent danger they were in. Mrs. Rachel Heins, a former chief operator, and Miss Olive Britton, a former operator, volunteered their services, which were gladly accepted. The operators who were on duty during the explosions were Miss L. V. Johnson, supervising chief operator; Miss E. Bedle, Miss E. Cooper, Miss E. Disbrow, Miss H. Hopkins, Miss E. Pederson, Miss A. Powers, and Miss G. Van Brackle.

Perth Amboy

The heaviest burden of traffic fell upon the operating force at Perth Amboy, and some of these young ladies remained on duty continuously for from twelve to eighteen hours. All the glass in the windows and doors was shattered, but they continued to work, handling the tremendous load of telephone calls that fell like an avalanche upon them. They were Miss Effie V. Clark, day chief operator, who reported for this emergency at 3 o'clock Saturday morning; Misses Gladys Dempsey, Anna M. Preston, Viola W. Huff, Mamie Eggertsen, Millie Gallagher, Alice J. Dolan, Marguerite M. Dolan, Agnes R. Grier, Mabel E. DeVeau, A. C. Burns, Nellie M. McKenzie, Jennie Megill, Catherine V. Kelly, Mary C. Neilson. In addition to these, Miss Mary A. Mullin, day chief operator at Woodbridge, Miss Julia A. Sullivan, a Woodbridge operator, and Mrs. Mary E. Warner, an operator who resigned and was married only two weeks previous, and others who volunteered their services from Elizabeth and Newark, assisted the regular staff during the rush period.

The heroic work performed by the operating forces of the offices affected is beyond all praise.

"War Savings Stamps mark an epoch in our National life."—Secretary McAdoo.

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Our Croix De Guerre

Out-of-Town Operators Receive Medals at End of Year's Volunteer Service in Washington

Medal designed to commemorate one year's service at Washington

IT is natural for all of us to gather together as the years go by a little hoard of treasures which serve to remind us of happy and important events in our lives. They act as little stepping stones to carry us back over the years which pass by so quickly, so crowded with happenings that one in turn pushes another into the background.

For the past year many girls from other companies, including the New York Telephone Company, who volunteered to aid the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company to handle the enormous amount of added business, due to the war, have been serving loyally and faithfully in Washington. The year has meant a great deal to them. There is not one of the girls who does not feel bigger and better for the sacrifice she has made, or who will not record that year as a momentous time in her life —a time when she had her finger on the great heart of the nation, felt its throbs, and strove to keep it beating.

She needs, and will need, no reminder of her work, and wants no praise for it, feeling as she does that she is one small part of the big System whose one aim is to give the best service in its power in these times of war.

The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, however, with a desire to show a little of its great appreciation of what these "'Bell Volunteers" have done for their country, has designed a medal to commemorate the war service of every girl who completes one year of service in Washington, or who remains as long as her services may be required.

Medals have been presented to the following girls up to October 31, and it is hoped they will always be to them a reminder of their patriotic service:

GIRLS WHO HAVE COMPLETED ONE YEAR IN WASHINGTON AND ARE STILL SERVING

Name	*Home City*	*Anniversary*
Haggerty, Mary E.	Philadelphia, Pa.	Feb. 12, 1918
Schulze, A.	New York City	Feb. 12, 1918
Todd, Edith	Astoria, L. I.	Feb. 12, 1918
Gibbons, Mary	Brooklyn, N. Y.	April 2, 1918
Huegh, Margaret	Brooklyn, N. Y.	June 17, 1918
Klaus, Martha E.	New York City	June 17, 1918
Orr, Ethel M.	West Philadelphia, Pa.	June 17, 1918
Roepcke, Florence	New York City	June 17, 1918
Whalen, Anna V.	New York City	June 19, 1918
Manz, Mary	New York City	Aug. 26, 1918
Quigley, Alice	Brooklyn, N. Y.	Aug. 30, 1918
Allen, Eunice	Albany, N. Y.	Sept. 14, 1918
Canfield, Helen	Albany, N. Y.	Sept. 15, 1918
Dawson, Bessie D.	Philadelphia, Pa.	Sept. 26, 1918
Rutledge, Josephine M.	Albany, N. Y.	Sept. 26, 1918
Smith, Viola	Coxsackee, N. Y.	Sept. 26, 1918
Zweighalt, Esther M.	Koushocke, Pa.	Sept. 26, 1918
Bearman, Eleanor	Brooklyn, N. Y.	Oct. 3, 1918
McNerney, Harriet	East Orange, N. J.	Oct. 3, 1918
O'Connor, Marie	Philadelphia, Pa.	Oct. 3, 1918
Ross, Loretta J.	Albany, N. Y.	Oct. 3, 1918
Steigner, Frances	Hoboken, N. J.	Oct. 3, 1918
Steigner, Matilda	Orange, N. J.	Oct. 3, 1918
Westwood, Edna	West Orange, N. J.	Oct. 3, 1918
Carson, Estelle H.	East Orange, N. J.	Oct. 5, 1918
Cunningham, May B.	Paterson, N. J.	Oct. 7, 1918
Dugan, Marie	Paterson, N. J.	Oct. 8, 1918
McCarthy, Lillian	Newark, N. J.	Oct. 12, 1918

GIRLS WHO COMPLETED A YEAR IN WASHINGTON BEFORE GOING HOME

Name	*Home City*	*Anniversary*
Tief, M. V.	Mt. Vernon, N. Y.	Mar. 9, 1918
Davis, May E.	Philadelphia, Pa.	June 12, 1918
McCreight, Margaret C.	Philadelphia, Pa.	June 12, 1918
Nicholson, Mabel A.	New York City	June 17, 1918
Smyth, Majory I.	Olining, Pa.	June 17, 1918
Boreneman, Rose	Baltimore, Md.	June 17, 1918
Brooks, Emily	Baltimore, Md.	June 17, 1918
Kennedy, Katherine E.	New York City	July 1, 1918
Lovequist, Anna G.	West Somerville, Mass.	Sept. 17, 1918
Gustafson, Edith E.	Dorchester, Mass.	Sept. 17, 1918
Davenport, Mrs. L. M.	Newark, N. J.	Sept. 26, 1918

In a letter written by Mr. F. H. Bethell, President of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, to the girls who receive the medals, he says: "It is a source of pleasure and real satisfaction to me to feel that you have shown this loyalty and patriotism, and I wish to extend to you every assurance of the appreciation of our Company."

To Mrs. Davenport, Mr. Bethell wrote:

September 21, 1918.

MRS. L. M. DAVENPORT, Manager,
Operator's Training Department,
New York Telephone Company,
Newark, New Jersey.

MY DEAR MRS. DAVENPORT:

It has given me pleasure to keep in touch with the splendid work you have accomplished in the very difficult Washington situation, and in having completed a full year's service and returning to your Home Office because of the pressing demands for your services there.

It is a matter of more than ordinary satisfaction to me, first, to tell you how much we have appreciated and do appreciate your splendid efforts, and second, to forward to you a medal which is designed to commemorate your year's service at Washington.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,
F. H. BETHELL.
President.

A few women in France have received the Distinguished Service Medal, but as yet this country has accorded no official recognition to the "soldiers of the second line." The Telephone Company is a pioneer in the movement.

In special cases where the Home Office finds it necessary to recall an operator before she has served her year, she is given her Service Medal.

When our boys come back home decorated with their bars and crosses, there will be a little army of telephone girls awaiting them who can proudly show their *Croix de Guerre*.

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OUT-OF-TOWN OPERATORS ON A PICNIC AT THE ZOO

The operators at Washington are never at a loss when they want to take delightful walks, and are very fond of Rock Creek Park, full of natural beauty. They are especially fond of its zoo, where they spend many pleasant afternoons.

Bell Volunteers

How One Group of War-Workers,—the Telephone Operators,—Is Getting Joy Out of Life and at the Same Time Doing Splendid Work

"NO salutes, no brass bands, uniforms, or military regalia," said a Bell Volunteer, "but lots of work and plenty of fun,—that's what our life in Washington is.

"When we decided to go to Washington to help take care of the enormous increase of traffic created by war conditions, we were celebrities for the time being. The other girls looked at us admiringly, and wished that they could go, too. Of course, this is a wonderful time to be in Washington, as everyone knows, especially under conditions such as we have,—with food, homes, and everything else provided for us—even 'mothers.'

"As I said, when we left we made a pretty big splash in the home puddle, and felt like big fish, indeed. We got our little kits together, had our pictures taken, said our goodbyes, and off we went, carrying with us the feeling that upon us depended the entire telephone system of the country!

"Can you imagine our surprise when we arrived at our destination in Washington and found that that exalted feeling had worn off, and one of lonesomeness had taken its place? But that, too, disappeared with the warm greetings we received, and we started in on our new duties with great enthusiasm.

Team-Work!

"Needless to say, we had many lessons to learn. I can say for myself, and I know the rest of the girls will agree with me, that it has been a most wonderful experience, for it has taken me out of myself, and the contact with other girls of different nature, disposition, training, ideas, and what not, has rubbed many corners off me that I didn't even know I had! It did not take me long to realize that while I was important as a cog in the great wheel of the war machine, as an individual I was just lost among thousands of others, just as eager, conscientious, and patriotic as I, if not more so."

The Editorial Board of "The Bell Volunteer." Front row—Miss Josephine Dobbins, Mrs. Mae Derby and Miss Anna Humphreys. In the rear stand Miss Eleanor Foley and Miss Bessie Connors. Miss Sherry, the sixth member, had to work

What she did learn, she added, and her case may be cited as typical of practically that of the eight hundred Bell System out-of-town operators now in Washington, was that if she defaulted, broke rules, or did not live up to her fair and just portion of the work to be done, she hurt not only the telephone system, but some other girl. The rights of others depended on her fairness, and she quickly learned her lesson, with the result that she and her comrades all "pull together" in their work as well as in their play, bringing about that teamwork that Rudyard Kipling so aptly describes when he says:

> It ain't the guns nor armament,
> Nor funds that they can pay;
> It's the close coöperation
> That makes them win the day.
>
> It ain't the individuals,
> Nor the army as a whole;
> But the everlastin' teamwork
> Of every bloomin' soul.

But who could be lonesome with eight hundred girls for playmates as well as for co-workers? If one wants to play tennis, she is sure to find others who will jump at the chance of a game. Any who like some light gymnastics, or who care to learn the art of graceful dancing, need only to present themselves to Miss Hays, the physical supervisor, who has started dancing classes in every house. "Gym" work at the Bristol, and a nice, cool swim, under the guiding eye of the instructor, attracts other devotees of sport. There is something for everyone to do, from out-door corn roasts at crackling fires, with Miss Lampert, the new musical director, and the girls singing all the "old-timers," to hikes and trips to all sorts of places that the girls had longed to see; basketball games, et cetera, to parties and dances at the various "houses," at which figure solos by some of the "800,' and community "sings" under the direction of Sergeant Riemer, a War Camp Community Song Leader. Just put 800 happy, lively girls together, give them an orchestra, and some "eats," and they will take care of the rest. At least, so it seems from the echoes we get of Colonial Farewells, which are such a success that they have to be said more than once, "sings," "at

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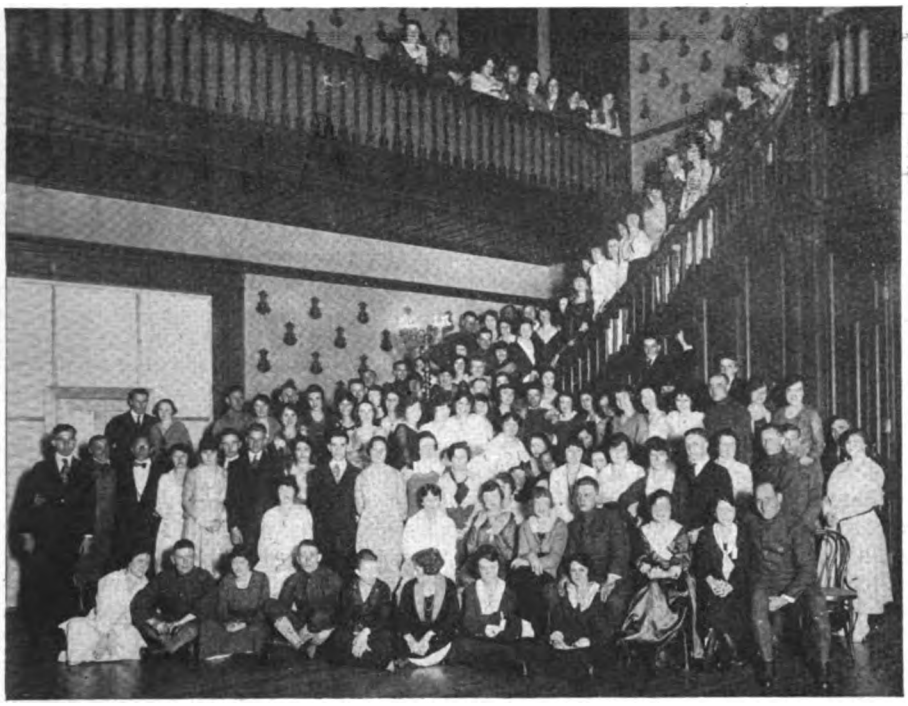

An Entertainment at the Belcourt, where all made merry with songs and dances

homes," and the many other festivities that ingenious girls, bubbling over with good spirits, can invent. In the farewell to the Colonial, the girls and their friends took great delight in the songs and recitations by Miss Margaret Gleason, of Pottstown, Pa., Miss Eleanor Foley, of Chicago, Ill., and Miss Gertrude Gerhardt, of Philadelphia, Pa.

A Week's Fun

A glance at the calendar for one week will give some idea of the various diversions which are arranged to meet all tastes and fit the "off hours" of the various groups of girls. It aims to provide "food for laughter" and plenty of that mysterious thing called "pep."

These calendars are posted in every house a week in advance, with sign-up slips, thus giving each girl an opportunity to make her plans in advance and use her spare time to the best advantage.

A Newspaper, Too

Not content with all their duties, parties, games, and diversions, these telephone operators at Washington have decided to edit a paper! How is that for ambition? They "got together" on this, too, and have issued the first number of their semi-monthly newspaper. By general vote, it was called *The Bell Volunteer,* named after themselves.

The paper is to be conducted by an editorial board made up of one representative from each house, and aims to report everything of interest that happens within their several circles, as well as to publish short articles and poems contributed by any telephone girl in Washington. All the "folks at home" will read it eagerly for news of their "Volunteers," for they will feel that in it the girls will speak for themselves.

Was there ever a paper run like this one? Each girl is to be Editor-in-Chief for one issue. As the paper itself says, "The members of the first Editorial Board of *The Bell Volunteer* . . . were chosen by the chaperons to serve for three months. The next board will be made up from those who show ability and willingness to contribute to the paper. One editor was chosen from each house, who in turn selected a number of girls to act as reporters and gather news of interest to the members of that house, as well as write up all parties or events of a social nature."

The members of the first Editorial Board are:

Miss Anna Humphreys, of Buffalo, N. Y., Vermont and L., Editor-in-Chief; Bristol, Mrs. Mae Derby, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Washington College, Miss Bessie Conners, Albany, N. Y.; Belcourt, Miss Catherine Sherry, Johnstown, Pa.; Fairmont, Miss Josephine Dobbins, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Colonial, Miss Eleanor Foley, Chicago, Ill.

Every operator receives a paper, and extra copies can be procured for five cents.

Good Fellowship

The foreword which introduces the paper breathes the spirit which is back of *The Bell Volunteer,*—the spirit that makes the girls such strong friends and such good workers:

"October is here and our busy days are at hand. Let us all look forward with a spirit of confidence in ourselves and a will to do well the work that lies before us this winter. Amongst ourselves let us foster the feeling of good fellowship that will make the days pass happily, and let us always have extended the welcoming hand for the newcomers, and a helping hand for each other.—D. D. F."

September	*Morning*	*Afternoon*	*Evening*
Friday—27th	Sight-seeing Bus Tour around City 9:30—11:30		Corn Roast
Saturday—28th	Up Washington Monument 11:00	Bus Tour to Arlington 2:30—4:30	Dance at Fairmont
Sunday—29th		Hike Meet at Mr. Field's Office at 3:00	Sing with Leader Bristol
Monday—30th			Washington College Class in Newswriting and English Fairmont 8:30
October			
Tuesday—1st	All Day Trip to Mt. Vernon	Bus Tour of City 2:30—4:30	
Wednesday—2nd	Up Washington Monument Through Pan-American Building 10:30	Picnic Supper Meet at Mr. Field's Office at 4:00 Back at 8:00	Trip to Library 8:30
Thursday—3rd		Trip to Capitol 2:30	Talk on Current Events Fairmont 8:30

A FIFTY-FIFTY IRISHMAN

In his book, "From Gallipoli to Bagdad," "*Padre*" William Ewing tells the story of a burly Irishman brought into the field hospital suffering from many wounds.

"What are you?" asked the doctor.

"Sure, I'm half an Irishman."

"And what's the other half?"

"Holes and bandages." — *Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.*

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

A City Cannot Irrevocably Commit the State to Rates Fixed by a Franchise

THE United Railway Company of St. Louis applied to the Public Service Commission of Missouri for authority to increase its rates. The city of St. Louis and the Civic League of St. Louis objected and challenged the power of the Commission to change or increase the rates of fare specified in the franchise ordinance of the city under which the company was operating.

The Commission held that the city was not authorized to irrevocably commit the State to the rates of fare specified in the ordinance. That the establishment of rates was a legislative function of the State, which was exercised under the police power of the State, and that it could not be held that it was the intention of the State to surrender this important function to the municipality by the provisions of Section 20 of Article 12 of the Constitution to the effect that no law should be passed granting the right to construct and operate a street railroad within any municipality without first acquiring the consent of the local authorities, and that a franchise so granted should not be transferred without similar assent first obtained.

The Commission pointed out that the surrender of the sovereign power of the State to fix rates must be evidenced by clear and unmistakable language and that said constitutional provision evidenced no intention to surrender or delegate to the local authorities the power to grant franchises which would thereafter prevent the State from exercising its sovereign power to regulate rates. That there is no express language used surrendering this power of the State, and that the most that can be claimed is that the power has been surrendered by implication, which is not permissible. That the Public Service Act was enacted for the purpose of providing a uniform system throughout the State for the regulation and control of public utilities, and to create and establish a board clothed with ample administrative power to investigate, hear and determine all matters concerning the conduct and management of such utilities. That in thus providing by a State law means whereby all questions of the character in question might be heard and determined, it was evidently contemplated by the Legislature that local regulations such as municipal charters and ordinances adopted for a like purpose should upon the enactment of the State law become thereby superseded or abrogated or, if adopted later than the State law, that they should be inoperative and void since otherwise confusion and the consequent defeat of the purpose of the statute would result from the conflict of authority which would inevitably arise.

The Commission, therefore, held that the franchise agreement between the city and the company was necessarily made and entered into in view of and subject to the sovereign power of the State to regulate and change or modify its provisions with reference to rates and service, and that it was not within the power of the city and the company by such franchise agreement to exclude the power of the States.

Mathematical Precision is Impossible on the Question of Whether a Rate is Compensatory

THE Supreme Court of Kansas affirmed a judgment of the District Court of said State enjoining the Public Utilities Commission of Kansas from enforcing an order directing the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad Company to publish and observe a new and reduced schedule of freight rates on certain commodities between certain points in the State. The company charged that the rates sought to be established by the Commission were unlawful, unreasonable and discriminatory and would deprive the company of its property without due process of law and deny to it the equal protection of the laws. The District Court found that the rates in question were unreasonably low and discriminatory, and would be unjust to the company, and, therefore, issued the injunction aforesaid.

The Commission urged on appeal that the company had not produced any figures showing the cost of moveing the commodities in question, and that, therefore, it had not clearly proved that the rates complained of were non-compensatory.

The Supreme Court points out that this sort of evidence is seldom if ever available, and that until railroads and shippers or Legislatures, Commissions and Courts or all of them together can settle or agree upon some arbitrary factor to be included as the proper proportionate burden of investment, maintenance and administration, taxation, wages, services, etc., which every commodity hauled by a railroad should bear, the evidence which the Commission says was wanting in this case will be wanting in every case, and if the failure to produce that particular line of evidence was fatal to the company's cause herein, it would always be useless to seek judicial redress. A freight rate law suit is in most respects like any other law suit and has to be decided upon the evidence which the parties can and do present, and justice cannot be withheld because a rate complained of cannot be shown with the precision of a mathematical theorem to be non-compensatory.

Free Service to the Residence of a Village President and to Churches is Discriminatory and Unlawful

THE Carrier Mills Utilities Company applied to the Public Utilities Commission of Illinois for authorty to increase its rates for electric service. It appeared that the company in consideration of the franchise granted to it by the village had agreed to furnish service free of charge to the office of the president of the village, the town house, the fire station, and such other village property as should be designated by the village board, and had also agreed to furnish current to light the churches of the village free of charge. In disposing of the application, the Commission held among other things that service furnished free of charge in accordance with the provisions of a franchise ordinance would not constitute discrimination in so far as it might be reasonable in

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amount and character, and in so far as it might be regarded as a consideration for the right to the use of the streets and other public property by the operating utility. That, however, service to the residence of the president of the village could not be considered as compensation to the village, and that service rendered to churches likewise could not be considered as a payment to the citizens of the community at large for the privilege accorded the utility. The citizens as a whole or the village corporation do not benefit from service of this character rendered essentially to private individuals for private uses and not rendered for a public use.

A Little Matter of Signature

THE typewriter covers a multitude of sins—in penmanship. Thus we in this generation avoid the scorn and ridicule of the older folks who always wrote neatly and legibly, not to mention the black thoughts and exasperation of our business acquaintances if it were necessary for them to obtain important data from various scribbles and scratches.

One thing, however, has escaped the jurisdiction of the typewriter, the signature, in which every one vies with every one else in distinctiveness, peculiarity, or, to be more exact, in a special arrangement of zig-zag lines. All works well when one's correspondents become accustomed to his particular hieroglyphic, or, better still, when the printed name is on the letterhead. In the absence of either of these two loop holes of escape, what is the poor man to do who must answer? If he should write to Mr. U. N. Decipherable as he would like to, or to Mr. Zuuuum, as the signature appears to him, he might lose a friend or a business relationship. The simple solution of the problem for those whom the Gods have forever ordained to be illegible writers, lies in typewriting the name as well as writing it.

Several of the departments of the government have issued an order that every document must have a typewritten name, together with the signature. This is an excellent ruling, and saves time as well as ill temper. It is the small seemingly unimportant practises, such as these, which make up the larger efficiency of offices, and it is well to institute them.

A Newark subscriber recently returned his toll statement showing a charge for call to "German Valley." Noted thereon as a memorandum he stated: "Not mine—I am more patriotic than that!"

W. A. Post,
Newark Commercial.

Style and the Girl!

EVERY once in a while that all-absorbing topic of woman's dress again comes to the fore. One person asserts that "the shoe that pinches may be the ruination of an artistic career." Another assures us that good morale goes hand in hand with the knowledge that one is well-dressed.

Reformers are continually coming forward with all sorts of suggestions as to how to make woman's dress more comfortable, practical, and at the same time economical. They seem to be especially concerned about the attire of the business woman.

Many a girl who goes to business has had her mother ask her why she "didn't keep that hat or that coat for Sunday." And the reply was that one had to look nice "going down-town."

Is that vanity? By no means. A girl who goes to business is before the public eye. She does not dress to attract attention, as so many think, but because she feels that by being untidy and careless about her appearance she will draw the notice—and criticism, of her fellow travelers and associates.

"Of course," many girls say, "if we had the money we could look nice." That does not necessarily follow. What is needed more than money is good taste, and a little judgment in spending.

It is true that one person can live comfortably where another would starve. To buy flimsy, perishable dresses when one has a limited income is bad judgment, to say the least. If a girl works six days of the week, her problem is to buy clothes that will be suitable for business, quiet in tone, durable, and attractive.

Individuality

Designers have outdone themselves in trying to create a combination business, afternoon, and evening dress. But who wants such a thing? What girl wants to wear one dress for every occasion, and that one a uniform?

The designers forget that there is such a thing as expressing individual personality in dress—a thing that is especially evident in business, where a girl is judged so often by her general appearance. People are impressed, agreeably or disagreeably, by one's general appearance. What a pity that so many girls, and men, for that matter, fail to realize this, and so, by being careless, untidy, or "noisy" in dress, lower their own worth in the eyes of others!

Many who would reform woman's costume, make all sorts of suggestions in the name of economy, comfort, and attractiveness. All these things should undoubtedly enter into the selection of one's clothes, together with that all-important factor—health. When one feels that a girl is shivering beneath a filmy shirtwaist, the waist ceases to even look attractive. No shoe is good-looking when it pinches and makes one hobble painfully.

Not a Question of Expense

Who is there that does not like to see a girl well-dressed? But "well-dressed" does not imply expense, gaudiness, slippers so perilously high-heeled as to throw one off one's balance, skirts so short or narrow as to cause one to look awkward and ungainly. What it does imply is neatness, harmony of color, suitability, and, last but by no means least, comfort.

If a girl's attire is all this, she need never worry about the impression she makes at first glance. As with our soldiers, whose morale is maintained by rigid discipline as to cleanliness, neatness, et cetera, so it is with her. The consciousness that she is suitably attired spruces her up mentally. Every one has probably had the experience of being conscious of looking well at some time or other. There is an exhilaration about it, that mere man cannot understand, but that "every woman knows," and it must not be scoffed at or belittled, or,—misunderstood!

When the War Will End

"IT is a waste of time to try to predict the end of the war," we are told, but many insist that we can predict it, not by days, months, and years, but by something far more vital. They calculate thus: When the Allies can produce essentials greater in quantity than the amount destroyed, and appreciably greater than the amount produced by Germany, and when they have on hand such a great surplus of food, ammunition, aeroplanes, guns, and men that Germany will realize that she cannot go on without being finally annihilated, then the war will end, and it will end by Germany's own will.

Be that as it may, is there any one so blind that he cannot see his own work cut out for him? Until he realizes the load that he and every one of his fellows must carry, and until he determines to secure that much-needed surplus, by extra production and by economy, the war cannot be won.

None of us is doing all that we can do. Ours is the fight, and ours will be the victory. When shall it be? We are the only ones who can tell.

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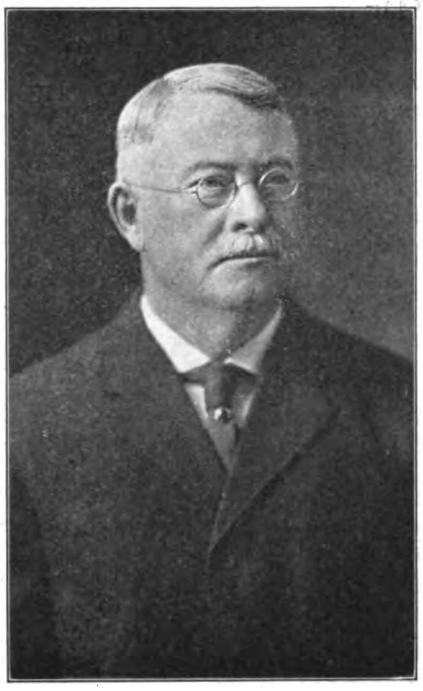

H. G. McCully

Harry Glenwood McCully

HARRY GLENWOOD McCULLY, President of the Electrical Securities and Construction Company, and a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America, was stricken with heart disease while attending service in the Church of Our Lady of the Valley, Orange, N. J., December 30, 1917, and died within a few minutes. He was apparently in good health when he left for church shortly before 10 o'clock.

Mr. McCully was born at Lower Merion, Montgomery County, Pa., July 1, 1855.

From 1875 to 1879 he was employed by the American District Telegraph Company of Philadelphia as Assistant Cashier to Mr. William D. Sargent.

On July 1, 1880, he entered the service of the Bell Telephone Company of Philadelphia as bookkeeper and cashier,—remaining with that Company until 1882, at which time he became associated with the Long Island Telephone Company at Brooklyn.

In 1883, at the time of the consolidation of the Long Island and New Jersey Companies, and the formation of the New York and New Jersey Companies, he was transferred from Brooklyn to Jersey City and made Superintendent of the New Jersey Division, succeeding General Charles H. Barney, which position he held until 1906.

In addition to his conection with the New York Telephone Company, Mr. McCully was a director in several of its associate companies, as well as being President of the Electrical Securities and Construction Company.

Mr. McCully was of a kind and genial disposition; and his sudden death is deeply mourned by a large circle of friends.

He is survived by his wife and one daughter.

Samuel Hancock Marriott

S. H. MARRIOTT, Auditor of Receipts of the Long Lines Department of the American Telegraph and Telephone Company, died at his home in Brooklyn on August 11, 1918.

For nearly thirty years Mr. Marriott had been identified with the work

S. H. Marriott

in which he was engaged. He was born July 21, 1867, and on August 12, 1889, he entered the accounting department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. On June 1, 1911, he became Auditor of Receipts of the Long Lines Department, but for several years prior to that he had performed the duties of the position under a different title.

Mr. Marriott was recognized as an expert on revenue accounting, and was highly esteemed by his associates and a wide circle of friends to whom his death is a distinct loss. He is survived by his wife and a sister.

Leonard P. Borrell

LEONARD P. BURRELL, a Repairman in the Plant Department of the New Jersey Division, died of pneumonia at the Municipal Hospital in Philadelphia on September 29, at the age of 29 years. He was called into active service in the United States Navy on April 7, 1917, having been a Reservist since April 9, 1913. His original rating was that of Chief Electrician and he had been advanced to the rating of Electrical Gunner.

Leonard P. Borrell

Mr. Borrell had been in the employ of our Company since May 23, 1910, and is survived by his wife and one child.

Harry E. Kronfield

PRIVATE Harry E. Kronfield, of Battery B, 350th Field Artillery, A. E. F., was reported in the casualty list printed September 20 under the heading of those seriously wounded. His father was notified that he was doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances, and it was thought that he would soon be brought back to this country. On the 4th of October, however, his father received word from the War Department that his son had died in France of his wounds.

Mr. Kronfield was drafted on February 23, 1918, and sailed for France the latter part of April. He had been employed by the Company for about four years, and at the time he entered the service he was a collection clerk in the Murray Hill commercial office in Manhattan. He was regarded as an exceptionally good clerk.

Following is an extract from a recent letter from Mr. Kronfield:

Somewhere in France, 1918.

We have traveled nearly all through France, and we are now holding a sector of our lines. It is a most wonderful feeling to see and hear the crack and roar of the big guns. During the night it is a pretty sight to see the rockets' red, white, and green glare and the red flashes of the big guns. Of course you realize that all this is very interesting if it is going in the right direction, but when it starts coming in your direction, it's no joke.

I had the pleasure of meeting several fellows along the roads running telephone wires, and the telephone men are sure doing some wonderful work. No matter

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where you go you see them stringing wires.

A Hun airplane is flying over our heads trying to locate us, and our anti-aircraft guns are firing away at it, and the shrapnel balls are dropping all around us.

Thomas Ennis

Thomas Ennis

THOMAS ENNIS died in the service of his country on October 2, 1918.

He was 25 years of age and had been with the Company as elevator operator and storeman in Albany since August 27, 1917. He was drafted into the military service on July 20, 1918, and at the time of his death was a member of the 71st Infantry at Camp Meade, Maryland. He was sick but a few days with Spanish influenza. His Albany address was 52 Bassett Street.

Fred J. Isler

FRED J. ISLER, an employee of the Murray Hill Accounting Centre, who was inducted into the National Army on February 21, 1918, was wounded in action on August 25, 1918, and succumbed to his injuries four days later.

Mr. Isler was born in Italy on February 13, 1892, of Swiss parents. He and his mother and sister emigrated to America shortly after the death of his father, and at the age of fourteen Fred was employed as a messenger in the Accounting Department of the New York Telephone Company. He attended night school, and his diligence, perseverance, and industry fitted him for promotion to bookkeeper, a position he held until he entered the army.

Mr. Isler joined the Expeditionary Force overseas in May of this year. Although without technical knowledge of telephony, he applied himself to that science in a thoroughly characteristic manner, and was soon assigned to, and actively engaged in, telephone and signal work. His letters to friends and associates in the office indicate that he cheerfully accepted such assignments as the repair of "breaks" in the telephone lines at the height of battle as part of the day's work, and that he saw nothing incongruous in an accountant performing such duties. He was engaged in restoring a line of communication that had been broken by shell-fire when a bursting bomb resulted in the wounds that caused his death.

Fred Isler's life has been one of unswerving devotion to duty. At an early age he assumed responsibility for equipping and maintaining a home for the mother and sister who survive him, and cheerfully denied himself of much that he might accomplish this. Quiet and unassuming, but industrious and resourceful, he was a model employee. It was with this self-same spirit of loyalty and disregard of self that he quietly fitted himself for one of the most essential and dangerous assignments on the field of battle.

Fred Isler has made the supreme sacrifice. To all who knew his big, gentle nature, his unfaltering determination, and his strength of character, it will occasion no surprise that he kept his "rendezvous with death" as he had lived—a real Man.

James J. Delaney

JAMES J. DELANEY died in the service on October 6, in his twenty-eighth year. On May 4, 1908, he entered the employ of the Company as a clerk in the office of the Auditor. In January, 1911, he was transferred to the Mt. Vernon Revenue Accounting Office, and his experience in the field was followed in April, 1912, by assignment to the duties of department accountant in the office of the Auditor of Receipts.

Mr. Delaney's entry into the service of the country was delayed in February by an operation for appendicitis, but, when he recovered from this illness, he entered the United States Naval Reserve on June 16, 1918, and was sent to the training station at Pelham Bay. He had secured leave for a week-end, and in his eagerness to spend this time at home with his parents, he did not report sick when he became ill on the day preceding the leave. Pneumonia developed and he died at his home in Yonkers after a short illness.

The funeral was held on October 9, his comrades from Pelham acting as pallbearers. An escort of sailors from Pelham Bay accompanied the body to the services in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church and to the cemetery, where burial was made with the usual honors.

Mr. Delaney's work in the Company brought him in contact with employees of all departments, and his early death will be regretted by them and his immediate associates by whom he was highly esteemed.

Ronald F. Corey

Western Division, Plant

RONALD FRANCIS COREY, Toll Section Lineman, Albion, N. Y., died of pneumonia at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., on September 28, 1918.

Ronald F. Corey

Mr. Corey was born June 24, 1888, at Attica, N. Y. He first entered the service of the Company in the spring of 1907 and was employed for the greater part of the time until December 19, 1908, when he left our service and was engaged during 1909 and a portion of 1910 as a Timekeeper for the Empire Engineering Co. at Lockport, N. Y. Re-entering our service on June 13, 1910, he worked as a Combinationman and Troubleman until August 13, 1911, when he resigned. He was again re-engaged on September 10, 1911, and had been continuously in the employ of the New York Telephone Company from that time. He was employed as a Combinationman, Installer, Troubleman, Lineman, and Section Lineman.

On July 5, 1918, Mr. Corey enlisted in the Radio Branch of the Signal Corps of the United States Army. He entered active service on July 15, 1918, as a private in a Training Detachment at the New York University, University Heights, N. Y. On September 9, 1918, Mr. Corey was transferred to Fort Hamilton, N. Y., as a private in the 14th Training Company, in which organization he remained until his death.

Mr. Corey had a very pleasing personality and leaves, besides his wife, a host of friends, both in and out of the Telephone business Funeral services were held at Albion, and burial, under military auspices, was at Attica, N. Y.

If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches, and poor men's cottages princes' palaces.—Shakespeare.

It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who, in the midst of the crowd, keeps with perfect sweetness the serenity of solitude.
—Emerson.

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Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division

Commercial Department

F. W. Hearne, local commercial manager, Plaza, transferred to local commercial manager, Riverside, *vice* W. A. Dalton transferred to local commercial manager, Buffalo.

W. R. Eno, local commercial manager Yonkers, transferred to local commercial manager, Plaza.

G. F. Beach, supervising agent, Dey Street, promoted to local commercial manager, Yonkers.

W. C. Asman, supervising agent, corporation accounts, transferred to supervising agent, Bowling Green.

W. Hinchcliffe, agent, Riverside, promoted to supervising agent, to be definitely assigned later.

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Katherine Boylan, senior operator, Murray Hill, appointed supervisor.

Miss Hannah V. Butler, senior operator, Melrose, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary E. Casey, night senior operator, Melrose Toll, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Mary Collins, evening senior operator, Greeley, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Ella F. Connell, supervisor, Rector, appointed senior supervisor and transferred to Bowling Green.

Miss Ethel M. Connor, supervisor, Harlem, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Catherine Craft, evening senior operator, Melrose, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Lillie A. Dauenhauer, evening information bureau senior operator, Spring Information, appointed evening information bureau supervisor.

Miss Minnie Ehmann, supervisor, Rhinelander, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Josephine Feindt, service observer, Canal, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Marie Frederick, senior operator, Melrose Toll, appointed supervisor.

Miss Adelaide C. Giblin, evening supervisor, Melrose, appointed evening central office instructor.

Miss Katherine Gregory, senior operator Rector, appointed supervisor.

Miss Helen Hammarth, senior operator, Cortlandt, appointed supervisor.

Miss Pauline Haug, senior supervisor, John, appointed assistant chief operator and transferred to Bowling Green.

Miss Mary A. Hayes, senior operator, Stuyvesant, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary J. Heinsohn, evening chief operator, John, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Julia Kristjen, information bureau senior operator, Spring Information, appointed evening information bureau supervisor.

Miss Mary A. Leary, supervisor, Stuyvesant, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Jennie R. McEvoy, supervisor, Madison Square, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Mabel McEvoy, supervisor, Spring, appointed Central office instructor.

Miss Helen L. Martin, supervisor, Columbus, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Mary Nash, senior operator, Melrose Toll, appointed supervisor.

Miss Mary A. Nolan, night supervisor, John, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Edna Rau, night information bureau senior operator, Spring Information, appointed night information bureau supervisor.

Miss Katherine Reilley, senior operator, Greeley, apointed supervisor.

Miss Helen Riordan, evening senior operator, Circle, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Irene Roberts, night supervisor, Columbus, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Theresa Schnall, supervisor, Cathedral, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Eleanore T. Shea, supervisor, Lenox, apointed central office instructor.

Miss Florence Stang, assistant chief operator, John, appointed chief operator.

Miss Frances M. Symond, chief clerk, Rector, appointed supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth Thorp, supervisor, Plaza, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Elizabeth Washington, senior operator, Franklin, appointed supervisor.

Miss Amelia G. Willett, evening supervisor, Cortlandt Toll, appointed evening chief operator.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Martha E. Bruhns, evening supervisor, Main, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Rose I. Caton, evening senior operator, Flatbush, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary E. Harkins, senior operator Prospect, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Katherine Kroose, evening senior operator, Flatbush, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Sybil Mark, evening senior operator, Flushing, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Mary E. Martin, evening supervisor, Main, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Margaret M. McCarty, senior operator, Prospect, appointed Central office instructor.

Miss Gertrude V. McGinn, evening senior operator, East New York, appointed supervisor.

Miss Eva M. Raycroft, assistant chief operator, Main, appointed chief operator, Bath Beach.

Miss Ruth Sherry, evening senior operator, Richmond Hill, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Gertrude Smith, senior operator, Richmond Hill, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Kathleen M. Volp, operator, Newtown, apointed central office instructor.

New Jersey Division

Commercial Department

J. T. Lawley appointed agent-in-charge, Red Bank, succeeding G. F. Illenberger, transferred to Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester division.

C. A. McGowan appointed agent-in-charge, Englewood, succeeding W. W. Thompson, resigned.

Traffic Department

Miss Gertrude Callahan, evening senior operator, Montclair, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Helen Connolly, evening senior operator, Branch Brook, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Florence V. Davis, evening senior operator, New Dorp, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Madeline Kehrer, evening senior operator, Waverly, appointed supervisor.

Miss Catherine M. Kelly, evening senior operator, Rutherford, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Dorothy Mann, evening senior operator, Union, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret Von Gosseln, senior operator, Elizabeth, appointed supervisor.

Revenue Accounting Department

Miss Effie Lunger, toll settlement clerk, apointed senior toll clerk.

Miss Clara Walker, toll settlement clerk, appointed toll supervisor.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Nina R. Allen, supervisor, operators' training department, Albany, appointed chief operator.

Miss Mary G. Curtis, evening senior operator, Troy, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mae A. Pregent, evening toll operator, Mechanicville, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Catherine E. Ryan, evening senior operator, Troy, appointed supervisor.

The following operators went to Washington during the month of September:

Miss Genevieve F. Allen, Albany (Main).

Miss Edna C. Bartlett, Albany (Main).

Miss Loretta M. Buchanan, Albany (Main).

Mrs. Margaret M. Burmaster, Albany (West).

Miss Martha E. Carr, Albany (West).

Miss Mary A. Cary, Troy.

Miss Esther E. Clarke, Albany (Main).

Miss Agnes M. Corrigan, Albany (Main).

Miss Helen L. Cramer, Newburg.

Miss Mildred de Rouville, Albany (Main).

Miss Helen E. Dooley, Albany (West).

Miss Kathryn T. Dooley, Albany (West).

Miss Mary E. Downes, Poughkeepsie.

Miss Alice M. Eckert, Newburg.

Miss Anna M. Fitzsimmons, Albany (Main).

Miss Margaret R. Fitzsimmons, Albany (Main).

Miss Edith Friedman, Saratoga.

Miss Agnes M. Greene, Kingston.

Miss Anna D. Hemmerling, Schenectady.

Miss Angeline C. Hewitt, Albany (Main).

Miss Carolyn A. Lindenmyer, Albany (Toll).

Miss Anna McHale, Albany (Main).

Miss France M. McNamara, Albany (Main).

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Miss Hazel C O'Neill, Poughkeepsie.
Miss Catherine M. Powers, Albany (Main).
Miss Anna H. Reynolds, Albany (Main).
Miss Josephine B. Rohrmiller, Albany (West).
Miss Hilda Shoor, Albany (Main).
Miss Elizabeth K. Smitka, Albany (Main).
Miss Agnes C. Sullivan, Saratoga.
Miss Florence M. Tremblay, Glens Falls.
Miss Maud R. Weaver, Kingston.
Miss Minnie E. Weaver, Albany (West).

Central Division

Traffic Department

Miss Bertha Congdon, evening senior operator Binghamton, appointed evening supervisor
Miss Mildred Potter, clerk, Syracuse Toll, appointed supervisor, Syracuse-Warren
Miss Nina Yonge, evening operator Ithaca, appointed supervisor.

Plant Department

Pearl C. Baerthel, clerk, Syracuse, appointed draftsman.
F. H. Bunn, lineman, Rome, appointed foreman.
L. A. Harris, installer, Syracuse, appointed inside man.
W. S. Holcomb, switchboard cleaner, Syracuse, appointed installer.
G. S. Hulett, lineman, Ithaca, appointed installer-repairman.
C. D. Lownsbury, splicer's helper, Syracuse, appointed chauffeur, cable department.
W. Northrupp, groundman, Utica, appointed chauffeur.

Western Division

Commercial Department

W. A. Dalton, local commercial manager, Buffalo, *vice* H. C. Stephan.
H. C. Stephan, formerly local manager, Buffalo, assigned to special work.

Traffic Department

Miss Aeleen C. Berean, operator, Barker, appointed chief operator.
Miss Irene A. Schmidt, senior operator, Crescent, appointed supervisor.
Miss Lydia Maas, instructor, Howard, appointed evening chief operator.
Miss Catherine McCann, senior operator, Main, appointed evening supervisor.
Miss Pearl C. Braun, evening senior operator, Oxford, appointed supervisor.
Miss Leeana D. Dils, evening senior operator, Oxford, appointed evening supervisor.
Miss Margaret A. Frank, evening senior operator, Seneca, appointed evening supervisor.
Miss Mary C. Evans, senior operator, Seneca, appointed evening supervisor.
Miss Lillian M. McCarthy, senior operator, Seneca, appointed evening supervisor.
Miss Henrietta Luber, evening senior operator, Tupper, appointed evening supervisor.

If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches, and poor men's cottages princes' palaces.—Shakespeare.

Teach the Young Idea How to Shoot

NO need to-day to talk preparedness. Never has a truth been so terribly demonstrated, and whatever other lessons may be learned from this World War, this one will stand out boldly above the rest.

It applies not only to the present but to the future, and not only to defense in warfare, but to progress in peaceful pursuits.

Making the world safe for democracy means educating future generations in democratic ideals just as much as overthrowing the German autocracy now. It is remarkable how foreign immigrants have assimilated the democracy of America in the past, but not enough has been done in making them all-American. In fact, it is doubtless equally true, though perhaps to a less extent, that native Americans have been too neglectful of their own children in this respect. The pernicious effect, for instance, of education in German universities has only lately been recognized, in its influence upon the trend of thought here in America. Conceptions entirely un-American were being propagated, and in their tendency were undermining the very foundations of our government, all unsuspected, until they were revealed in their true light. It is well that we should adopt the best the world outside affords, provided it is in harmony with our own form of government.

It is important, therefore, that one phase of preparedness for the future should be toward educating the coming generation in virile Americanism. The opportunity is afforded in our educational institutions, both secular and religious, and through the institutions devoted to the welfare of the youths of the land, as well as through the press of the country.

Take, for example, the Boys' Club at Avenue A and Tenth Street, in New York. There they will have this year a membership of three thousand or more boys and youths. They have never had so many boys apply to use the Club before. These boys, instead of hanging out on the street, go there for physical work, games, educational or literary advantages. The Club has a fine plant, equipped with gymnasiums, swimming pool, et cetera. Among the trustees are Mr. N. C. Kingsbury, vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and Mr. H. S. Brooks, the general commercial superintendent. What an opportunity such an organization as this affords! The great need at the present time is for workers, leaders, who will take a group of these boys and give one night a week to them. No special experience is necessary, all that is required being that the man who volunteers should like boys, have patience in dealing with them, and be a good American. Mr. Louis DeF. Downer, the superintendent, would be glad to have volunteers for this work.

This is only one of many such organizations which are found in all large and many small cities. Upon the boys they reach, just as much as upon any others, the future of our country and its institutions depends.

Disabled Men Made Vocational Experts

CONGRESS has given to the Federal Board for Vocational Education, with headquarters in Washington, the duty of re-educating vocationally and placing back in civil life, soldiers and sailors so badly disabled as to render it impossible for them to return to their pre-war occupations. This is, of course, free to the disabled man. He is given an allowance for support while training, and family support allotment also. A place in civil life is found for him when he is competent.

"The temptation is great," says Charles H. Winslow, Chief of the Division of Research, "to go into some sinecure job, offered in the flood tide of patriotism and gratitude. These things pass to some extent. In the long and lean after-years, what of the incapacitated man who can not render value received? Can he survive? Manifestly, in a race with an expert in a particular line—created out of a disabled man—the one who has no training will be compelled to fall back upon his pension, and his relatives. This we desire to prevent, and the way to do so is to make the disabled man see it also. The time is before he leaves the hospital and becomes a 'drifter' in civil life."

THE PROPOSAL

A very shy fellow was dusky Sam,
As slow of speech as the typical clam,
He couldn't make love to his Angeline
Though his love grew like the great gourd vine.
So he brought the telephone to his aid,
To assist in wooing the chosen maid.
"Miss Angeline? Dat you?" called he.
"Yes—dis Angeline—dis me."
"Miss Angeline, does you love me, too?"
"Why, yes, of course, I loves my beau—
Say, what's the reason you wants to know?"
"Miss—hold de wire—will you marry me? True—"
"Yes, course I will—Say, who is you?"
—Erie, Pa., *Dispatch.*

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This lineman, as he goes back step by step, paying out his wire in the most approved way, has forgotten that . . .

He had thrown his pike poles down on the side of the road. And so, not having eyes in the back of his head . . .

He jabbed a three-inch spike into his heel, injuring himself so seriously that he was laid up for weeks

Sometimes there is more than one "right way" of doing a thing. These men have observed all the regulations regarding the use of a ladder, but . . .

Conserving Man Power

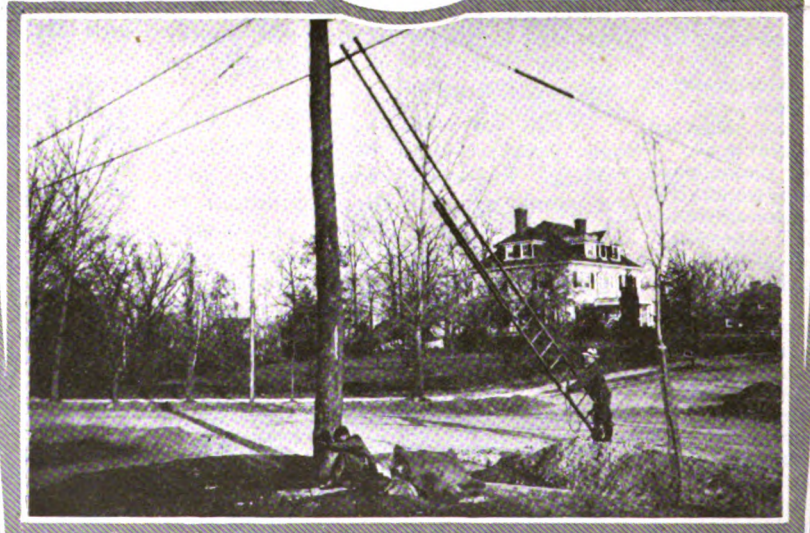
C-A-R-E-L-
E-S-S-N-
E-S-S

SPELLS

ACCIDENTS

If they had propped it up this way against the house, they would have done just as good a job, with much less risk

A telephone man must touch many "high spots" every day



This man went up all right, but he came down unexpectedly and by the "air route," because he forgot to tie his ladder to the wire

Ladders are tricky things, but become firm friends if fastened securely

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THE TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
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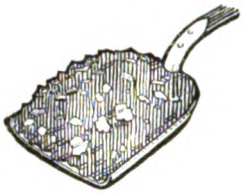
Save WHEAT

Save MEAT

Save SUGAR



Save COAL

Save TELEPHONE SERVICE

BY saving telephone service, you help the Nation in its war program in several ways:

1. **You help save CAPITAL that would be required for additions to the plant. The Government has directed all business concerns, including PUBLIC UTILITIES, to reduce capital expenditures to those *absolutely necessary* during the period of the war.**
2. **You help save EQUIPMENT that would be required for additions to the plant. Because of the difficulties due to the war, of securing supplies and transportation, the federal authorities have directed that all extensions and betterments be confined to *imperative* and *unavoidable* work.**
3. **You help save LABOR that would be necessary in installing, maintaining, and operating the service. In view of the present shortage of skilled labor in all lines of industry, it is desirable that labor be used as far as possible only for *essential work*.**

Will YOU save telephone service in every possible way, by the elimination of unnecessary calling and unnecessarily long talks and by avoiding requests for equipment and forms of service that are not *absolutely necessary?*

AMERICAN TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO. LOCAL LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE BELL SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

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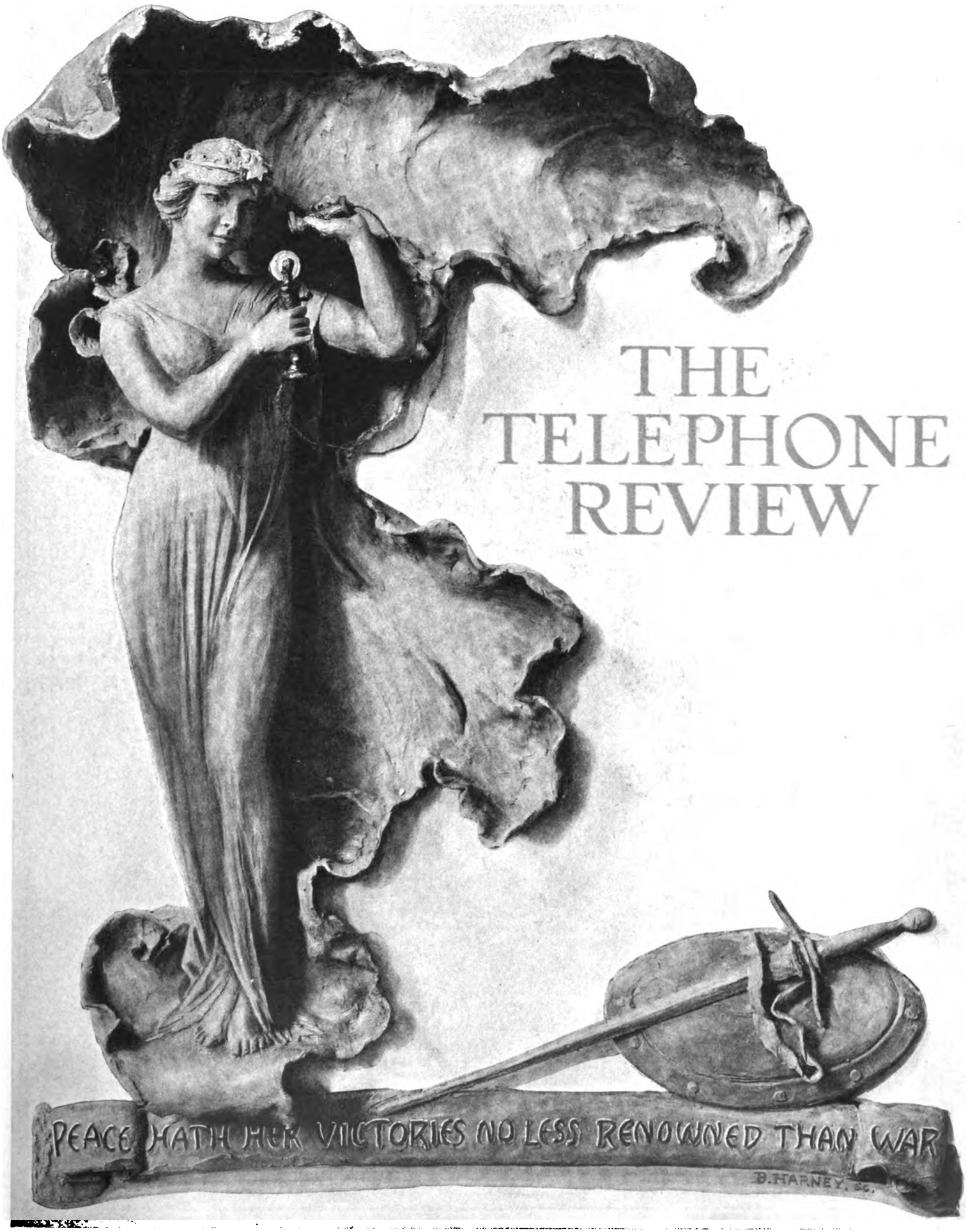
VOL. 9 DECEMBER, 1918 NO. 12



THE TELEPHONE REVIEW

Peace and Good Will

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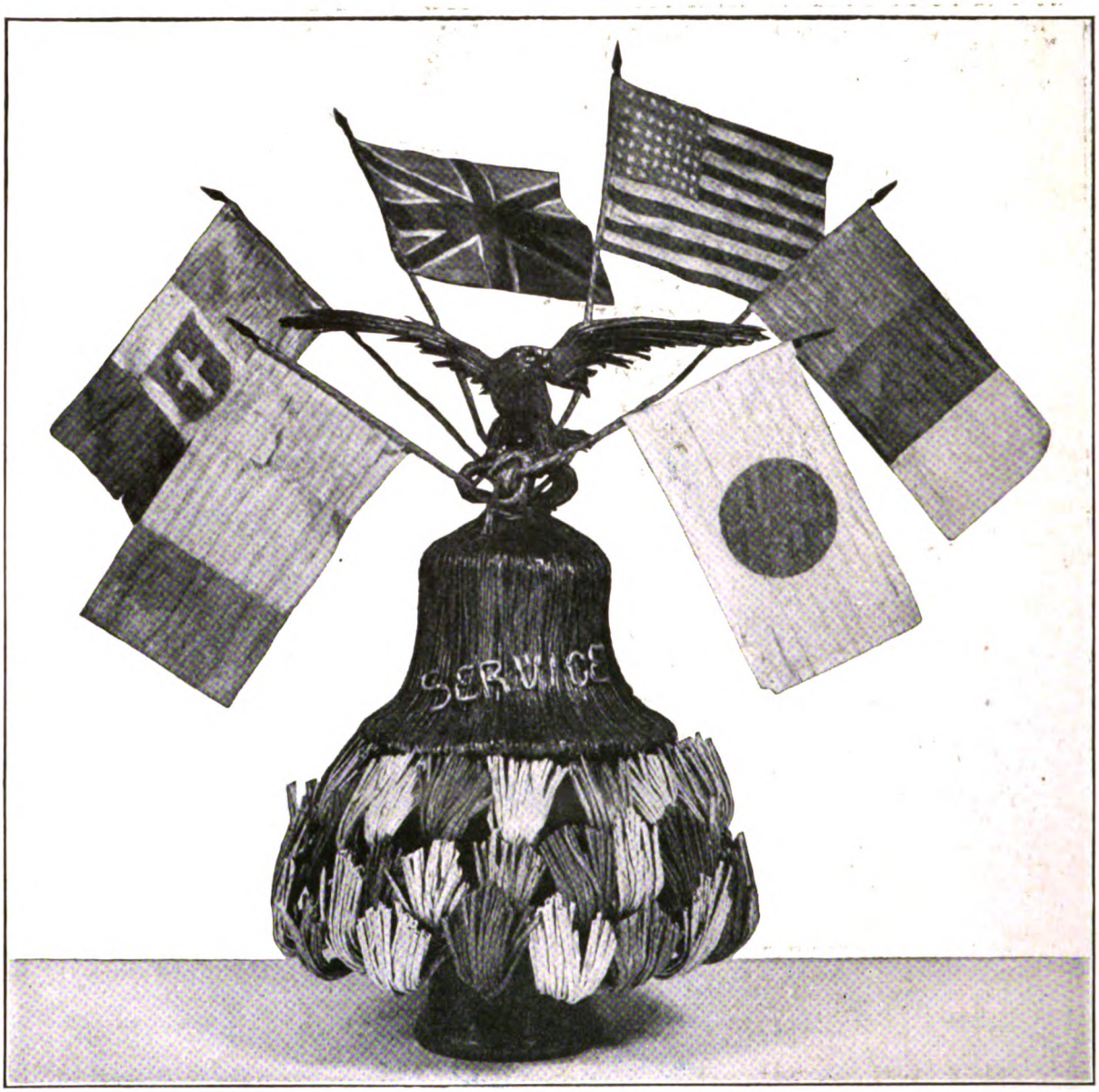

THE above picture is from a photograph of a short piece of nine hundred pair cable, the wires of which were formed to represent the Bell Service. The entire piece, with the exception of the eagle's eyes, is made from the cable, the eagle and flags being made separately and attached to the bell and the base.

The cable used was of the color-code type, which gave the entire piece a very fine coloring. The flags are made from paper insulation of the wires, narrow strips being pasted together and the coloring in the flags being obtained from the various colors used in the color-code insulation. Even the stars in the American Flag are cut from the insulation.

This emblem was made by Mr. C. M. Herbert, an employee in the Plant Department of the Metropolitan Division, who has been in the Bell Service for over twenty years.

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The Telephone Review
New York December 1918
Vol. IX, No. 12

NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

November 15, 1918

THE world now comes into a period of peace and convalescence. For many of our people the brightness of the old pre-war days never will return, but to all of us there has come a feeling of relief too deep to be analyzed. The most satisfactory of all emotions that we have recently felt and still feel is one of thanks: too soul gripping to be described.

We now set our faces forward, and with courage and hope apply ourselves to the work confronting us. And in it all the Spirit of Christmas will prevail; we will, in our efforts to make others happy, bring happiness to ourselves, and the world some day will be right again.

Let those who have suffered most take heart, for sacrifices had to be made, and it had to be that some would be called upon to suffer more than others.

A Christmas following closely upon the victorious ending of a terrible war will be a Christmas never to be forgotten. To all in our big family, I extend best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

First Vice-President.

War's End Brings Employment Problem

Telephone Continues As An Essential Industry—Opportunities for Operators

THE sudden ending of the war in Europe produced an equally sudden ending of many of the war activities in this country. While the world was looking for an early victory by the Allies and America, when the end came this country found itself as unprepared for peace as it had previously been unprepared for war. The demobilization already has begun. Tens of thousands of Government employees, it is announced from Washington, will have to seek positions elsewhere or retire to private life; millions of soldiers and sailors are returning home, and these and other millions of workers in war industries must find employment in normal avocations.

It is a glorious thing that the war is over, with Victory perching upon our banners; it is glorious to have taken an active, even though it may be an inconspicuous part, in bringing about the Victory, a part which every worker played who contributed of his efforts to the cause for which we were fighting. It will be a glorious thing to take an active and useful part in the rehabilitation of industry and the reconstruction period after the war.

WORKERS in all departments of the telephone business may feel a peculiar satisfaction in that they have been engaged in one of the most essential and prominent of all the nation's various activities during the war, and that they will be performing equally necessary and valuable service in the years which are to follow. Upon the telephone has depended and will depend the great burden of communication for the direction and control of all the agencies and activities both of war and peace, and with the new era which is dawning the expansion of the facilities afforded by the Bell System will be limited only by the ability of the country to respond to the impetus which lies in America's present supremacy in the affairs of the world.

Fortunate indeed, then, are we who have remained faithfully at our posts of duty performing our accustomed tasks in all departments of the Company, for no less honorable has been this service than that of those who went forth to battle,—though every one may have wished to see active service at the Front. Those who return will be acclaimed as heroes, and we shall all rejoice in their victories, but they will share the honors with those who "carried on" back at home in the same old jobs and made possible the victories "over there."

Fortunate are we, too, in the increased importance of our work for the future, which insures permanency and advancement according to our several abilities.

The problem involved in the reabsorption of labor will not affect us as it will those millions of others, among whom there are many who were influenced, not by patriotism, but by the lure of higher pay, to leave their places and who now, or soon will, find themselves without a job. Thousands of

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others, young women especially, who never worked before, have had a taste of the economic independence which comes with earning their own money, and will wish to continue. The difficulty of finding enough places to go around will increase as the demobilization and readjustment continues, and probably no agency will be in such demand in bringing the worker and the job together, as the telephone.

THIS leads to the thought that perhaps there are operators and other employees who left the Company to go into other industries, and who might like to return, and also, as there are opportunities with the Company for a great many more telephone operators, it is possible that in industries which are terminating their war work, as well as elsewhere, there may be young women who would be glad to become telephone operators.

Employees in the service may render valuable assistance to their friends and to the Company by pointing out the advantages of telephone operating as a profession, and by making inquiries among their acquaintances with a view to informing as many other young women as possible of the opportunities for employment in this Company.

Those having names to suggest, or other information that would be of value in securing additional operators, may notify their department heads, and their interest will be appreciated.

Many ex-employees may see this magazine and be glad to get the information direct; they may be sure the Chief Operators under whom they worked previously would welcome a visit or call from them, or a note giving the name of some other girl who would like to apply.

What Is Women's Work?

"THE old order changeth, yielding place to new," is nowhere more true than with reference to women in industry.

The present war has upset many of the traditions of the past, the prejudices of the present, and the calculations of the future, and both in industry and politics woman has taken her place alongside of man without the question remaining of her right to be there. Not only has woman proved her right, but her ability to maintain this new position and at the same time retain her charm and social distinction. Folks who have held up the scarecrow of feminism must now eat the crow, and the feminism which they decried has transformed many a boor into an almost human specimen of the *genus homo*. For this alone let us be truly thankful.

When it comes to efficiency in industry, women have shown an adaptability which has been as remarkable as it has been surprising, and in their productivity in many lines supposedly the realm of men exclusively, they have excelled their "masters,"—speaking in the terms of yesterday.

Men experienced in the handling of labor, both skilled and unskilled, always have recognized the difference in ability among individual employees and the fitness of some of them for other things than what they are doing. Round pegs are often found in square holes, and *vice versa*, wherever men are employed, and it should excite no surprise or disappointment if the same is true of women. The point isn't that women can be as efficient as men in every activity, but that they can be in some, and can be more so in some others.

Long ago it was discovered that women were more efficient than men as telephone operators. Young women selected for operators have had to possess certain qualities which could be developed by special training, and which would fit them for service more exacting and important than the mere mechanical operation of a switchboard. The mechanical part of a telephone operator's work is purely secondary in the performance of the service which she renders, and her work may not be classed as mechanical.

As the public became used to the voice of the telephone operator and began to recognize the refining transformation which was being effected in business manners, as well as in business methods, due to the telephone, the idea of feminism in business took on a new aspect.

Of course, there had been women in many lines of business before this, but these were mostly lines which were then regarded as within the province of women, and it was the telephone operator who first made her femininity felt in every trade, business, and profession from one end of the country to the other wherever there was a telephone.

In the indispensable work which the telephone operators have performed during the war, they have met the highest test of loyalty and patriotism to which they could be subjected, and have sustained to the fullest measure their reputation for efficient, faithful, and courteous service.

THE deep and abiding sympathy of the New York Telephone Company and all its employees is extended to the families and friends of our fellow-workers who have been taken from us by death, through the ravages of the epidemic of influenza that so lately has afflicted the country.

No locality or department in the company has been spared, and the number of our associates who fell victims to the disease is large.

They gave loyal and devoted service to their country and their company, and they will always be affectionately remembered by their friends among whom they worked.

A Word to Our Soldiers and Sailors

"WHEN our ship comes in," it often brings us a stack of square yellow envelopes with "soldier's letter" inscribed in the corner. These we open eagerly, for we are hungry for news. Sometimes other letters are passed along to us by members of the Company, and eventually most of them find their way into the columns of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, to be read by all of us stay-at-homes, who, while trying to do our share over here, find our eyes and hearts turning towards our army and navy overseas.

"We were glad to receive THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, and to read the letters from our friends in the Company," is a statement often made in these letters that come from our boys in the army.

"The monthly issues of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW are very welcome, and appreciated, for they relate the activities of our boys overseas," writes a mother of one of our telephone boys now a member of Company D, 407th Telegraph Battalion, in France.

As the next best thing to meeting one's friends is hearing about them, we should like you to try to swell that little stack of letters. Everything you do interests us. We like to hear about how you eat, play, work, fight, build, or chase cooties—anything and everything that goes to make up the web of your lives in the service.

Major Mellinger

IT is announced that J. M. Mellinger, who sailed for France in August, 1917, as Captain of Company E, of the Second Telegraph Battalion, afterwards the 407th, has been promoted and is now a Major in command of the 326th Field Signal Battalion.

Major Mellinger was a supervising foreman of cable placers, Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division, when he enlisted in the Signal Corps.

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Red Cross Christmas Roll Call

THE American Red Cross Society will hold its Christmas Roll Call during the week preceding Christmas, that is, from the 16th to the 23d of December.

This is a call for members, not a drive for money.

At this season of the year, when the spirit of giving actuates every heart, there is no doubt that an appeal for money for the most merciful work in which the Red Cross is engaged, would meet with an instant and generous response; but the Red Cross is not taking advantage of this opportunity in this way. It merely appeals for members at $1 a year, and each person who joins will be given a button which should be worn at all times, since the Society expressly states that it is planned to accept only one membership from a person. There are other classes of membership for those who are anxious to pay more.

The present membership is 19,787,900, and an effort will be made to increase the number to 62,243,400, or 75 per cent. of the entire population of the United States. This means holding all the present members and gaining 42,455,500 new ones.

This should be comparatively easy. It means only $1 for a single person, man or woman; $2 for a man and his wife, and $10 for an entire family large enough to satisfy even Colonel Roosevelt.

In announcing this Red Cross Roll Call of the nation, Mr. Davison, Chairman of the War Council of the American Red Cross, said:

"The Red Cross wants again to give the world notice not only that America can fight, but that to the last man, woman, and child, we stand four square for mercy, honor, and good faith among the nations."

That is a sentiment to which we can all subscribe, and by joining now for the year 1919 we can also participate through our membership in meeting the expenses of the Society. One-half of the dollar remains with the local chapters to be used for expenses for the relief of our soldiers and their families, and the other half goes to the treasury of the national society.

Our soldiers, sailors, and aviators are returning from overseas, many of them right into our own homes and others into hospitals. We shall see them and talk with them for many a long day, and they will tell us what the Red Cross has meant in France

and Flanders and something of what it means for the future. The story does not need to be told here. A statement has been issued from the Red Cross headquarters in Washington, however, giving a glimpse behind the scenes here at home, which may be as new and interesting to us as to those to whom the heart of this country has gone out with such great sympathy through that organization. We print below a brief condensation of that statement. After reading it, it will be surprising if the object of universal membership is not realized.

Washington, D. C., November 24, 1918.

The following is authorized by the War Council of the American Red Cross:

"During the past seventeen months the patriotic women of the American Red Cross have produced a total of 291,004,000 necessary articles, as follows: surgical dressings, 253,196,000; knitted articles, 14,089,000; refugee garments, 1,464,000; hospital garments and supplies, 22,255,000.

"Working with raw materials valued at $40,000,000, these women produced finished articles valued at $59,000,000 during the past year alone.

"The American Red Cross has become one of the world's greatest manufacturing concerns, having over 8,000,000 active operatives, many of whom have now become skilled workers, after months of arduous, loving labor.

"The Bureau of Chapter Production, from the headquarters of the organization in Washington, regulates the activities of this army of workers which is distributed through the 3,870 chapters and over thirty-one thousand branches and auxiliaries which constitute the fourteen divisions into which the American Red Cross is divided.

"Of all the articles produced by these patriotic women perhaps none are more welcome than those which are knitted, as is attested by the numerous letters of appreciation from the men in khaki and navy blue, both here and overseas.

"Practically every one of America's soldiers who have crossed the Atlantic in Liberty's cause has carried with him some of the knitted articles furnished by the Red Cross. These consist of socks, mufflers, 'helmets,' and wristlets. All the men in the camps on this side who are in need of knitted articles will be similarly equipped this winter, and many soldiers of our allied armies and thousands of refugees in the war-stricken districts will also be so equipped.

"That the American Red Cross has not forgotten our brave and valiant allies is shown by the following shipments, made during the past year: France, a total of 180,064,733 surgical dressings and refugee garments; England, 2,275,895; Italy, 44,393,352; Serbia, 200,294; Russia, 262,238; Palestine, 40,036; with a gross total to all of these countries equalling 227,236,548 garments of various sorts.

"Under an agreement entered into with the Medical department of the Army last March, the Red Cross makes a large quantity of surgical dressings for the army with materials which the Medical department furnishes. No similar arrangement has been made with the navy, but the Red Cross has furnished many ships and numerous naval hospitals with chapter supplies, by approval of the Surgeon-General of the Navy.

"Hundreds of millions of yards of gauze, a hundred million yards of fabric, and millions of pounds of yarn have been made up into dressings, garments, and knitted articles by these 8,000,000 workers since America entered the war.

"The Red Cross department of Supplies recently placed orders for twenty million buttons and 250,000,000 yards of thread, thus getting the very lowest market prices.

"In connection with their other duties, many women of the chapters have undertaken the repair of soldier uniforms and clothing for the Reclamation Division of the Quartermaster's department of the Army.

"With a view to increasing the number of supplies available as economically as possible, the bureau of chapter production is constantly experimenting in the manufacture of substitute materials for those which are hard to obtain."

The Navy Shares the Glory

IN the bombardment at Durazzo, the United States Navy took an active share in the war, supplementing the wonderful and ever-to-be-admired work of the cruisers, destroyers, and other craft which made it possible for us to transport our men safely to Europe.

Ensign Walter P. Groszmann, a former telephone man in the Plant Engineering Department of the Manhattan-Bronx-Westchester Division, is in command of U. S. Submarine Chaser No. 327. He writes:

It all means that we had the distinction, with our little boats, of being in the first offensive against shore batteries and defenses that the United States Navy has taken part in, in the war.

Our part of the work was quite conspicuous and important, and aroused much favorable comment. We, who were in it, are the envy of the rest of the fleet and are naturally proud of having been selected for the task.

The damage to Durazzo was enormous, but our own we may not mention; however, it is not worth mentioning.

Our "Big Chief" was with us, and was delirious with delight at the manner in which these ships accounted for themselves.

Our Allies who took part were most complimentary in their comments.

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Telephone Linemen on the Front

WE have heard much about the man with the gun, the infantry, the cavalry, the artillery, and the air service, but what of the one upon whom the success of all these depended? When we read "A curtain of fire was ordered to precede an attacking party," we seldom stopped to think of how it was ordered. If we could have glanced behind the scenes upon the Western Front, and seen the vast network of wires that unified every branch of the army, and if we could have followed the footsteps of that army of men without guns,—the telephone linemen, who have shown such high courage, disregard of danger, and fine realization of all that depended upon them—we should have had in our possession the key to our wonderful army organization.

Let us visit the front-line trenches, where the order for an attack is awaited from headquarters. We can easily take the trip there in spirit, through the letters and communications that have come "over the seas," and which reveal to us another phase of the struggle that led to Victory.

The men in the trenches are keyed up with expectation, for at last they are to have an opportunity to get out of cover and make a dash for the Germans. In the dugout are three telephone operators, ready for any word that may come along the wires.

Waiting

This is the picture as it is drawn by one war correspondent: "Inside this candle-lit, cave-like abode, the three operators are indulging in a friendly game of 'nap.' It helps to pass the time, which flies but slowly to those who wait expectantly for the 'direct hit' of a shell which luckily may never arrive.

"At each deal one of them takes up the receiver and 'calls up' the operator at the other end, to make sure the wire is unbroken.

"Again and again clods of clay, displaced by shells exploding in the vicinity, fall with dull thuds on the sandbagged roof. The hands of the players holding the cards shake palsiedly in sympathy with the shuddering floor on which they sit tailor-wise, as a 9-inch high-explosive bursts almost fatally near.

"'Close go that!' observes one.

"'Means the next will be farther away,' asserts another optimistically.

"The game of chance inside the dugout goes on uninterruptedly till a time arrives when no answer can be obtained on the telephone.

"'Wire's broken,' ejaculates the operator holding the receiver.

Ever behind the advancing forces of the army follow the Signal Corps men, with their reels of wire and portable telephones (notice reel at extreme right). Hardly have the troops arrived at their objective, through a rain of bullets and shrapnel, than the Signal Corps has established a connection with the commanding officer, and reports, "Hello! This is Cantigny"

Committee on Public Information

"Without a word the other two, clutching up their rifles and tools, pass out into the white light of the star-shells. As they clamber over the rear parapet and trudge along, following the wire, more dangerous shells are falling with monotonous regularity to the right and left of them. To heed such happenings is worse than useless. But luck is with them, and at last they pass unhurt out of the shelled zone into comparative safety. At length they reach a new shell hole, the cause of their unwished-for promenade. The work of slicing a new piece of wire to the broken ends is soon accomplished.

"Then they retrace their steps to the dug-out,—and the danger zone. Luckily it was the only breakage that occurred during the night.

Over the Parapet

"The rising sun is just peeping over the horizon as though curious to learn what has happened in its absence. In the British trench, the captain stands eyeing his wrist-watch impatiently from time to time.

"The men's faces are wearing a Christmas morning expression. They beam with good will, one to the other. But in their hearts there is neither peace nor good will to the German foe. The grip on their rifles is stronger than is absolutely necessary. The British guns are still blazing away at the Boches' front trenches.

"Suddenly the captain raises his eyes from his watch, and with a quick scramble is on the parapet.

"'Over, boys!' he shouts gayly.

"There is no cheer; only the scuffling sounds of men clambering, intermingling with heavy breathing. As far as eye can see to right and left there is a wrinkled wave of khaki-clad men surging forward.

"The three telephone operators, in accordance with orders, are waiting till their comrades have the hostile trench. They interpret these orders in the widest sense, for the attacking party can scarcely be said to have reached its objective before the three of them are doubling across.

"One carries a spool of wire wich he unreels as he sprints along, the others carry tools and the instruments.

"Between their starting point and objective, the German guns are putting a dense barrage through which they must pass. Shrapnel spatters on all sides like the first ominous drops of rain which precede a summer storm. Bullets fired from the rear trenches of the enemy at the newly won position, 'phit' past in countless numbers. Suddenly the

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man with the reel of wire spins half-around, staggers, and falls.

Carrying On

"'Only through the thigh. I'll follow on,' he grins, as he hands his burden to a comrade, who, jerking out a quick word of sympathy, dashes on once more.

"The two gain the captured trench where their captain awaits them.

"Out of breath with his recent exertions, he pants out:

"'Rig the 'phone up here,' pointing to a deep shell-hole. 'Only place. Covered from rifle fire, anyway.'

"The two men quickly adjust their instruments, and the captain, after handing a written message to be sent through, hurries away.

"The German guns are now playing on the newly won position, the heavy boom of high explosives intermingling with the snap-like report of the shrapnel shells.

UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE POST ON THE WESTERN FRONT

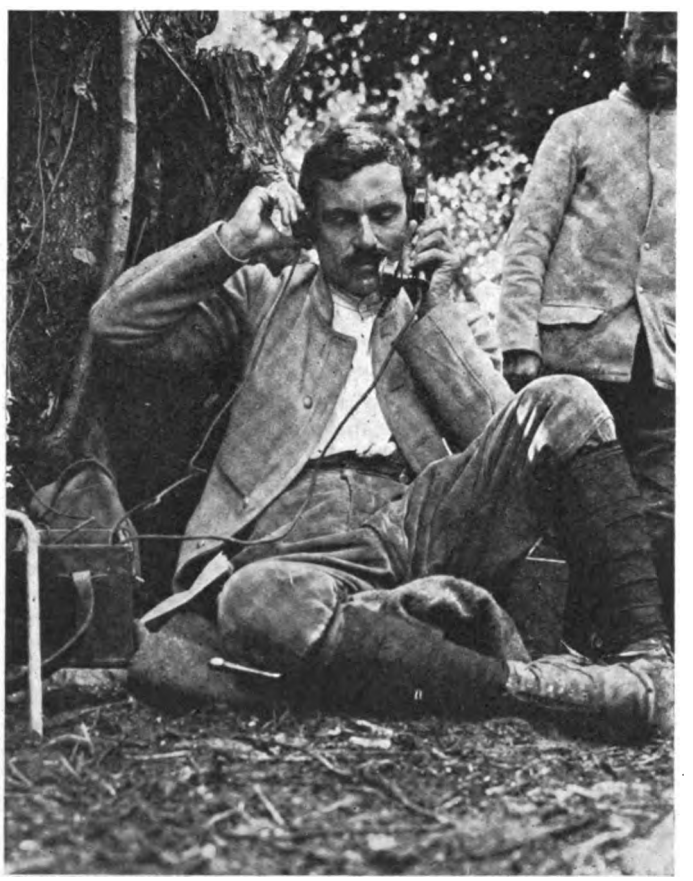
"You will be surprised to find how liveable these underground posts are, once you get used to them," writes a man from the front line trenches. This one, which houses the operators, has a straw shakedown, cooking utensils, kerosene light, and other things necessary for the immediate comfort of the men who operate the switchboard

"The captain perceives a mass of the enemy collecting for a counter-attack. He hurries back to the telephone to notify the artillery of the target. A glance into the shell-hole shows that the shrapnel has taken toll—one of the operators is dead. The other is lying with the receiver to his ear, but he returns no answer to his superior's call. In a flash the captain realizes that that recumbent position is too natural to be natural. He gently takes the receiver from the stiffened hands and gets his message through.

"Then, glancing up, he sees a man on all-fours, looking down into the shell-hole. It is the wounded operator who has crawled painfully after his comrades.

TELEPHONE IN TRENCH

Every trench is connected up with all the others, and with headquarters, so that no unit will be cut off and made helpless. The telephone is used in the trenches to transmit orders, give warnings of gas attacks, regulate distribution of food, et cetera, ad infinitum. When communication is broken, operators brave all shell-fire to re-establish it



DIRECTING THE BATTERIES

As the wave of soldiers goes over the top, followed by the telephone operators, the observation officer gauges the effect of the fire of the batteries covering their advance, telephoning corrections of the range. In his hands, very often lies the success or failure of the movement

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Ever watchful, alert, and with his finger on the pulse of the tide of battle, are the commander and his aides, in headquarters behind the lines. Equipped with essentials only, these men work day and night to keep all the military activities coördinated

"'I'll carry on, sir,' says the newcomer, quietly."

Behind the Lines

Such are the men in whose hands this most important work of the army is entrusted,—that of correlating every branch and division of the entire force. One of them, in telling of their work, explains the system underlying it very simply.

"One might compare the general," he says,—"if it were understood as not disrespectful, to a spider who sits in the center of a network of threads, —the threads the nerves of the organism, in this instance the telephone and telegraph wires and other lines of communication which converge to his bureau. There he may sit in quiet and think out his plans in tranquility, undisturbed by petty annoyances or details that might tend to warp his judgment.

"As the troops move forward, the telephone operators move with them, say three or four to a battalion, and are in constant communication with an exchange station. That station, again, is in communication with a long circuit by radiating lines, as, for instance, with the bureau of the general and the quarters of the principal officers. Now we may begin to understand how it is that the officer commanding an assault may direct the artillery, while in ignorance of its whereabouts.

"As the attacking party advances, the ground in front of it is swept by the shells of the big guns. As the soldiers continued to make progress, they would, if the fire were not accurately adjusted, run into their own shells; but at this point the telephone intervenes. The commander of the advancing force signals to the artillery, to direct their fire forward, towards any point of the compass, and at any distance desired. The artillery obeys by adjusting the elevation of the cannon, and though the man in front may not be aware of the situation of the guns, nor the gunners know where their shells are falling, yet the accuracy attained is such that it can be adjusted to every fifty, or, at any rate, every hundred yards of advance."

Silencing the Boche

One night, on the American Front in France, the Germans received a little surprise that was more startling than pleasant. While balloons hovered overhead, keeping the batteries below informed as to the position of the enemy, looming figures of enormous cannon, mounted upon steel-clad cars, came stealing along the tracks of the military railroad.

Silently one big cannon after another was swung into position, until six of these great creatures of the night were crouched in a half circle. Then the commanding general walked up.

"We are going to fire on the Boche telephone exchange about ten miles away, and then smash up some concrete fortifications," he said.

"Ready to fire—fire!"

The earth seemed to leap up and to dip and sway, even to those with cotton in their ears, as for three solid hours the monsters hurled devastation many miles at targets the gunners could not see, but reports came back over the telephone from men stationed in advance observation posts, saying: "The pillbox is wiped out; the telephone is smashed; the whole battery emplacement is gone."

Then came the command to cease, the guns stole away as silently as they came, leaving nothing for the enemy reconnoiterers, and the Boche was silent and helpless for the time being, at least.

A Telephone Testing Station behind the Firing Line. Note the number of wires going into tent. Canadian Official War Photograph

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But ours is not always the attacking party. On April 21, in a report from the American Army in France, we read of the deeds of our men at Seicheprey, where the Germans intended to pierce our lines.

"During the engagement," we are told, "the Germans concentrated their artillery fire on the American telephone and telegraph wires, which were cut many times. Couriers were forced to pass through two or three barrages to maintain communication.

"In the meantime, the men of the Signal Corps, many of them smoking cigarettes, in the face of a heavy bombardment restored the wires almost as fast as the enemy shells broke them."

Wiring at the Front

In order to prevent the advance trenches from being cut off from the rear, the telephone wires are duplicated. In fact, there are as many as fourteen in some trenches, and they are run along both sides of the trench, so that if a shell severs one set, the other may still be intact.

When near the firing line, the cables are buried in deep trenches dug for that purpose, and are weighted down with sandbags to keep them in place. At a certain spot before Givenchy, where at that time the advance trenches were between 300 and 400 yards from the support trenches, a wooden peg, invisible to the enemy, marked the spot where the telephone wires to various points were intertwined in a bunch about a foot below the surface, in a case.

Just about dawn, the enemy started throwing a few "common" shells, one of which struck the earth close to the wooden peg.

This pole line is typical of those erected close to the front. Short poles are used to escape detection by the enemy, especially when within range of their shells

"There goes the junction box, sir," said the lineman to his officer. "I must go and mend it. It'll probably be about half an hour's good work."

"Certain death," said the officer. "It's getting lighter and lighter. Is there no other way?"

"Sooner the better," said the man. "I'm off."

Over the mud he glided, in a shower of German bullets, until he reached the peg and began digging himself down. A few moments of manipulation of the wires, and communication was restored. With it came the news that the Germans were massing for an attack, just in time to avert disaster for Givenchy.

The day was saved, but the man who saved it is missing.

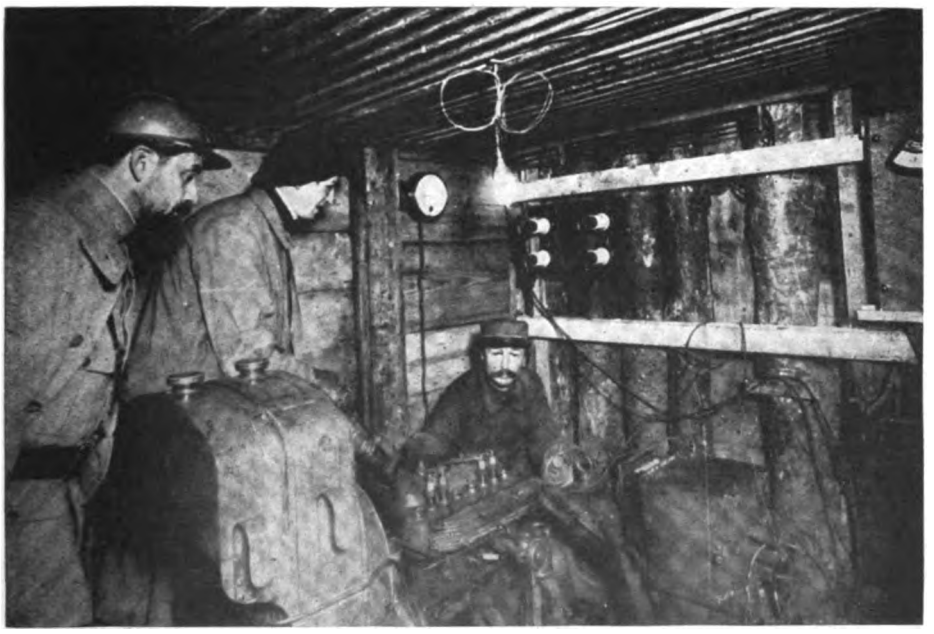
Among the Bravest

Many such instances may be cited, for the repair squads are regarded as among the bravest men of the army. They are all practical men, many of them taken from the telephone service in civilian life, and are willing to sacrifice their lives at any moment to keep the wires open.

An interesting story is told of how, when a shell severed the telephone lines, a signaller, without a thought for himself, leaped for the parapet, uncoiling new wire as he ran through a terrific rain of bullets and shrapnel. He fixed the wire, and on his way back stopped to repair another, standing there calmly, as though he did not know the awful risk he was running. Those watching him expected him to drop any second, but he ran back to the trenches untouched, and all he said was, "Whew! I think that's all right, now!"

Here is a story told by a telephone lineman:

"We had to run miles of telephone wire,—and as this was always getting cut by shell fire, you can guess that I and my telephonists had some pretty hot times keeping our communications going. All observation had to be done from our fortified trenches. These were simply hopeless,—battered to mere mud heaps and perpetually bombarded by the enemy,—and the in-



Did you ever wonder how the electricity for the telephone apparatus at the Front was furnished? This electrical plant, in a dugout many feet below ground, feeds power to lighting and telephone systems that connect all of the positions in the trenches. It is far enough below the surface to be safe from enemy shell fire

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fantry holding them had a frightful time of it. These particular trenches run along a crest of a slope and have been alternately held by us and the Deutschers several times during the last few weeks. . . .

"The last day I was up there, our wire got blown to bits somewhere out in the open behind the trenches for about the hundredth time, so I went out with one of my telephone men to try to repair it. We were in the midst of registering our targets for the attack, and we had to go over some awful places. Suddenly, as we crept along a hedge, there was a terrific bang, a cloud of smoke, and my man, about 50 yards ahead of me, disappeared entirely. . . ."

From the U. S. A.

Grit and a sense of humor often save the day for the American boys. On March 1, we learned of how a United States soldier, a telephone operator, who was working at a switchboard in a dugout in the sector "gassed" by the Germans, had a thrilling experience. Heavy German shells, striking near the dug-out, threw up clods of earth which blocked the entrance and held him prisoner in his underground telephone office for fifteen hours. During all that time he continued to send messages and answer his calls, wearing a gas mask most of the time to protect himself against fumes.

An amusing story is told of a couple of western men. Two brothers from Iowa, a sergeant and a corporal, were engaged in repairing the telphone wire during the fight. The wire was constantly being cut and the corporal brother reproved the sergeant brother for being slow. His comments were vivid.

"Consider yourself under arrest," said the sergeant brother.

"What?" shrieked the corporal brother. "Under arrest while a fight's going on? I'm damned if I do."

British Royal Engineers on a construction truck receiving orders over the telephone while building a line on the Western Front

UNITED STATES MARINES IN FRANCE
Brigade Commander Doyen inspecting the front line trenches in France. Notice telephone wires running along the side of the trench—another phase of the lineman's work
Committee on Public Information

Patriotic, Nevertheless

AN applicant for telephone service filled out the required form in the following manner. The address and signature are deleted for obvious reasons:

September 12, 1918

TO THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The undersigned applies for telephone service as follows:

Private house, party line telephone.

Located at (*deleted*).

1. State nature of business.
Raising children.

2. Is the service necessary in connection with work performed for the Government under Government contract?
No.

If so, with what department of the Government is your contract?
Not Governmental.

3. If not engaged on work directly under Government contract, can it be classed as a vital commercial necessity?
Most decidedly.

If so, please give reasons.
Commerce would be likely to cease comparatively soon were there no new humans to carry it on.

4. Have you received priority shipping privileges from the Government?
I do not wish to do any shipping.

Mrs. (deleted).

EASIER THAN FOCH

"I'm mighty glad they've got one general now for all the Allied armies. Let's see, what's that his name is?"

"General Issimo, I believe."—*Boston Transcript.*

"Over Here"

Verses written by one of our telephone boys in France to his brother at home:

Fate can play some curious tricks,
In this queer game of life.
She can change a scene from a place serene
To a world of tumult and strife.

A little more than a year ago
I was back on the old man's farm,
With never a worry or trouble or care,
And never a thought of harm.

Just plodding away all the live-long day,
Away out there in the sticks;
Awakening at four in the morning,
To tend to the cows and the chicks.

But it's all changed since then—the call came for men;
It seems the whole thing's been a trance.
I enlisted next day, the boys marched away,
And presto! I'm somewhere in France.

Now I'm not the kind to holler and whine,
And grumble about my lot;
I take things just as I find them,
Whether they're pleasant or not.

But the paths have not been strewn with flowers,
Since we reached this land last spring;
We've met with hardships and sorrows,
And we've cursed the whole darn thing.

But somehow there's something about the same
And the lure of the life and the land,
That gives you the courage to play the game,
And ripens you into a MAN.

And sometimes I think that I would not go
Back on a pass if they issued me one;
In spite of the cold, and the mud and the snow,
I'll stay till the darned thing's done.

I think I will go to bed after that. It's too much for my small brain.

CHARLIE W. LEMORE,
Co. E, 407th Tel. B'n., A. E. F.

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U. S. Telephone Operators Aid Victory

Girls Write of How They Transmitted Orders Night and Day at Their Post Near the Front

CAN you picture the pride and delight experienced by the small group of six telephone operators who had their dream realized when they were sent into the war zone to share in the stress and the glory of the St. Mihiel drive? That, they declare, is what they went over for, and for them to be required to spend 72 hours with small interruption at a stretch at the switchboard, putting through calls of vital importance to our operations at the Front, was indeed a joy of joys.

In their letters we read of how keyed up they were while preparations were in progress. As we read, we can almost see them, sitting there swiftly and tensely putting through their calls; we can feel the suspense, hear the strain in the voices, as connection after connection is made.

Finally, when every voice spelled relief, and the tension relaxed, when a happy voice came now and then over the wire, and someone even ventured a humorous remark, and Success was in the very air,—then, and not until then did these girls feel that their work was done for the time being. The welcome sight of the fruits of war that began to pour through the town,—prisoners, repatriated people, and restored towns amply repaid the girls for any strain under which they might have labored.

But to get the real thrills that these operators must have felt, one must read their letters, written in the very shadow of war.

From Miss Ester Fresnel

I

FRANCE, NEAR THE FRONT

Sunday Night, September 15, 1918.

MY DEAREST:

There is so much to tell you that I simply don't know where to start. But I must *raconter* all about this last wonderful victory of ours or I'll choke.

I suppose by the time you get this letter you will have heard all about it through the papers, but *neanmoins* I want to let you know the part we imagine we played in it.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE BATTLE

In the first place, before and while this "stunt" of ours was pulled off, we were rushed to death; we worked day and night, six hours at a stretch, and then ran home to snatch a few hours' sleep, then go back to work. The strain was pretty bad; officers were all on edge, and it was rather hard to keep our tempers at times because everything came at once, and *dès fois* the lines would go out of order, bombs or thunder storms up a way. Still the communications had to go through; men would ask for places we had never heard of and wanted them immediately. Sometimes it would take us over an hour to complete a call.

Altogether we were all very excited and just strained to the utmost.

Then all at once something seemed to come over everybody. Their voices were not so harsh,—they almost said funny things to us over the lines. We would call for places in the most dulcet of tones, even though we were dead tired, and we knew even before we were told that the whole thing had been successful.

Prisoners began to pour in, officers and men and the people were hanging on the doorsteps, for it seems it was a festive day and holiday in France.

One Major,—an old man, was waiting with his orderly to be taken; in fact, the majority don't seem to be unhappy at all. I went down to-day to the prison camp, or "cage" as it is called, to see them. We are feeding them extremely well, and altogether I guess they know they are far better off now, for companies surrendered at once.

REST AFTER SEVENTY-TWO HOURS

Last night we went to bed instead of working, the first time in 72 hours. I tell you even though my bed was hard (I have an old straw mattress) and I hadn't any pillow, I slept the whole night through and had a hard time getting up in the morning. . . . .

Just now, as I was writing, we heard the heavy tread of men and shouting, and we all rushed out just in time to see about three or four hundred German prisoners go by.

I'm sending you a clipping from the *New York Herald* (I suppose), telling a bit of what we telephone people have been doing. Not only that, but we were given this afternoon a typewritten sheet signed by our Chief Signal Officer, containing words of commendation from our Commander in Chief of the Army and of our Signal Officer for the behavior of the Signal Corps people, including us six girls during this time. Now what do you think about that?

We civilians will probably never experience the joy of wearing a service stripe. It is a thing to be proud of, the girls agree, and should be displayed on every occasion,—especially when it is new!

II

SERVICE STRIPES SHOWING

Thursday, September 19.

DARLING MUMMY AND DADDY MINE:

Yesterday and to-day for the first time in a pretty long time we've had a day off, and let me tell you, my own dearests, that we certainly appreciated it this time. You see we're waiting to go to another place again and so between times we rest a little.

We've spent the greater part of the afternoon taking pictures, just as warlike as possible, with our gas masks in the case, and with our helmets, and especially our service stripes showing. We crept down a new alley, so that we wouldn't be seen in this equipment in a perfectly safe and quiet town, to the courtyard of our office where there are a lot of sand bags stacked up and there with such befitting surroundings we posed, and posed, and posed.

I do hope they'll turn out because they're awfully funny, especially when you think that we made up all of the background.

Yesterday was the 18th, and six months since we landed in England, so we were able to sew our service stripes on,—Suzanne, Miss B., and I. You have no idea how proud we three girls were at having that shining gold bar on our left arm. The only thing is that we've the habit of carrying out coats and such on our *bras gauche* and although I had vowed not to forget to leave that stripe in view, every once in a while I'd look down only to find with great dismay that it was covered up. Quickly then, before you could say "Jack Robinson!," I'd shift the coat to the other arm.

I suppose in time it will get tarnished,—the *galon*, I mean, but for the present it stands out very well against the blue.

A real soldier is always on the move, as our operators in France have discovered. Miss Fresnel and her companions are having a "checkered career," having at last obtained their objective, namely,—regular barracks, and regular "chow,"—and their happiness is complete.

However, war does not seem to change their nature or disposition, for in the following letter Miss Fresnel describes how they started out on a jaunt "with a box of candy in one tin helmet and a bunch of flowers in another. Just the same, they looked mighty nice on the table at lunch!" You see, you cannot make a leopard change his spots, and a girl is a girl the world over. That's not to her discredit, either!

III

IN BARRACKS

Saturday, September 21.

MY OWN DEAREST DAD AND MUMMY:

Well, we're some place else now, and as in every stage in our career, it's quite different from the preceding station.

Our life here is exactly what we thought it was going to be when we first left the States and we are absolutely tickled to death. We aren't billeted in the town as we were at our last stop, but in barracks partitioned off with what seems to be corrugated paper. Accordingly, when the girls in the room next to ours lean against the walls, all our various bottles on the shelf fall over, and if weren't for our "extensive" telephone experience, our nerves would certainly be shattered at the terrifying sound of clinking glass. As it is, we rush to pick up a thousand pieces, but luckily bottles are now made of rather thick glass, and we are able to put them back in their places whole.

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Naturally, Sue and I have a room together and have fixed it up very nicely. We don't expect to stay here very long, and its more like camping than anything else. Our little *chambre à coucher* reminds me more than anything else of a stateroom, but we're awfully "comfy" really.

IN THE "GRAB LINE"

We mess, not by ourselves this time, but with the Signal Corps Officers and we have quite a time reaching for things across the table, which is made up of boards and is about six feet by twelve; can you imagine tiny me perched at one end on a long wooden bench? But I make out in the grab line more or less, as I always choose some long-armed person to sit next to if possible.

We had a perfectly thrilling ride over on the ———— (I'll find out whether I can tell you first) and the Colonel thought it very funny and very woman-like to see us start out with a box of candy in one tin helmet and a bunch of flowers in another. Just the same, they looked mighty nice on the table at lunch.

THE OLD PROBLEM

Up to the present we've always had a woman cook, who could prepare our meals on a regular stove, but now that we are absolutely part and parcel of the Army, our soldier cooks fix up the "chow" outside underneath a covering of some kind, next to one of our several *abris* and it is brought in state by two darkies who stand in a corner of the room and wait upon our every wish (with a little prompting, of course). I suppose by the time we have them well trained we'll be moving on to some other place. *C'est la guerre,* but we women can never escape the servant problem, it seems.

You know we girls are going to be rather spoiled in a way when we get back. It's rather nice being only six girls in an encampment of this kind and it will certainly feel funny to have a lot of other women around. We'll feel as though we ought to have the right of way, so all you "women folks" back home had better look out.

It's raining, and raining, and raining, and this place is just a sea of mud. Its being damp and chilly will make us work all the harder, though, won't it? For we'll have to "hustle" to keep warm, so you see, no matter how a thing looks at first, it's bound to be for some good, and it certainly must be an ill wind that blows nobody good, *n'est-ce pas?*

"One thing we've heard to our hearts' content, and that is the rumbling of the big guns," writes Miss Fresnel in a still later letter, sent from another locality. "When they put on the big barrage on the push, the very ground under our feet trembled. We walked out to the top of the hill at 3 a. m. and witnessed all the flashes and flares! Fritz certainl got his that time! No wonder the prisoners looked more dazed and stupid than usual."

And then she adds, with a charming little turn, "I'm enclosing an Austrian medal. I wouldn't handle it too much, if I were you. It may not be very clean." She also says:

IV

THE BIG GUNS

Wednesday, October 2, 1918.

MY OWN DEAREST MUMMY AND DAD:

We're six girls, five operators and a chief operator (which last does not sit in at all except in cases of emergencies), and between the five we work the whole twenty-four hours. Even if we don't have any days off, we have quite a little time to ourselves,—enough to see and hear quite some of the excitement that's going on.

We're as much at the Front as we'll ever be, and are terribly happy to be able to be up here. We'll be allowed to stay as long as we don't get ill, but the minute anyone complains of any discomfort or ailment, back she goes and back she stays.

"NOT JUST ORNAMENTS"

You see, the men do not want to be bothered by any girls up here, and quite a few honestly think that girls are a bother if not kept in what they believe to be their proper environment, where everything is convenient and at hand. So it's up to us to prove to these people that we're not just ornaments; that's why I've tried to be out in the open as much as possible and haven't written much to anyone.

A USE FOR THEIR "TIN CHAPEAUX"

The other day we saw a Boche aviator who was attempting to take pictures. It wasn't long before one of ours overtook him, but before that our anti-aircraft guns were in action. Of course, all that goes up must come down, and the shrapnel *descendaient* (I suppose that's spelled wrong: my French has not improved much) at an uncomfortable closeness at one time. The girls were reprimanded for watching anything of that kind and not wearing their *tin chapeaux,* but so far that's the only instance of that kind in this immediate vicinity. We have deep, dark, and damp *abris,* but have only visited them on excursion trips so far.

In St. Mihiel

MISS SUZANNE PREVOT, also one of the "six," tells of her trip through No Man's Land, and of the gaiety and joy in regained St. Mihiel. Her letters follow:

I

DARLINGEST MOTHER:

Think of your grown-up daughter twenty years old yesterday! I had thought, being in the army, it would pass just as any other day, but quite to the contrary, for I had a birthday party, and all in all we had a delightful time. I had only one wish,—to have my dear mother with us.

Dear, the work is so interesting here,—so different from H. Q. That was almost a perfect replica of an office in the States. Here we have very few positions, but that doesn't mean we can not handle business. If you heard that board hum! That's all it does from a. m. to p. m.,—not a spare minute. Half of the work is in French. One has to speak one hundred words a second to be able to get ahead of those Frenchmen.

We have found out that we don't need an alarm clock,—reason: our maid comes to work about seven with a good-sized pair of *sabots;* also, her little son has a little pair, and what under the sun they do in the yard before going into the kitchen, I don't know, but it certainly awakens us.

"What do the States think of the work our boys did?" inquires Miss Prevot. We can answer unanimously, saying that there was only one thing for us to think,—that it was wonderful, but only what we expected of our forces.

II

DEAR MOTHER:

I had the most delightful surprise yesterday,—a belated birthday gift which was a motor trip to a town which had been occupied by Germans only twenty-six hours before. It certainly was exciting. We crossed what had been No Man's Land, German and French trenches, and partly ruined towns, but what made the most impression was the people. They had been under German domination for four years, getting no news except German, being able to go around only in certain parts or the town, and having to live in dugouts, most of the houses being in ruins.

When they saw Americans, they didn't know who they were, but they soon found out. They all spoke to us, and were so thankful we had come. Everyone, from the children to the grown-ups, had either flags or a bit of ribbon. Flags flung from the ruined houses. Where they had kept them while the Germans were there, I don't know, but the flags came into view mighty quickly.

A LOVELY PIECE OF WORK

Isn't the news fine? We are all so proud of our boys and commanding officers for that certainly was a lovely piece of work they did. What does the States think of it?

On our way to the town we passed quite a few of our boys. They certainly make themselves at home anywhere they go. Part of a division was in the town,—had only been there a few hours,—and was all settled. Some were shaving, others sitting in the middle of a field sewing buttons on their shirts, and best of all, one was on top of a mound of hay, typing away on a typewriter. . . . .

III

Miss Prevot, too, likes the barracks, declaring that "they are great." The six girls are in a barracks and are chaperoned by their former Y. M. C. A. hostess,—Miss Russell, of whom they are very fond. She, also, is delighted with her service stripe, and says, "My! we are proud of them! They really look fine on our blue suits;—what vain things girls are!"

September, 21, 1918.
A. P. O. 774.

DEAREST MOTHER:

No more dancing,—for a while, at least. We have moved again and are located in barracks. They are great. Our billets are at one end with the office,—then there is a separation; on the other side is the mess hall, with the kitchen outside, then the Signal Officers. We mess with the officers. What a family three or four Colonels, Captains, Lieutenants, and ourselves make! Colored waiters! I haven't quite got used to them. They remind me of the Hotel St. Charles, long, long ago.

Last night you should have seen us six, going outside to the pump, each with our pail of water. The most dampening thing.

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though, is to wash in it in the morniug. We certainly will be some kind of soldiers when we get through, though I am sure we will not be so very much changed when we get back to our mothers.

Tootsie and I are writing on our suitcases,—quite comfortable, I assure you, each at the end of her bed. We are learning to pack in a hurry. We can do so now, trunk and all, within an hour, and the way you would approve of, too. Though one would say we were camping, we have everything we need.

We arrived here about eleven o'clock on a "bus" and had lunch. Then some of the girls went to a town nearby in a motor; others went to an Aviation Camp near here, and I stayed home with Miss Russell to await the arrival of our beds and camp chairs, for that is all we possess up here. I went off for a little while to visit an evacuation hospital. The nurses were lovely. We couldn't do much visiting, as the boys were seriously wounded. Came back just in time to see the trucks rumble in, and by the time the girls came home for dinner we had all the rooms fixed as best we could with our accommodations.

IV

That they rejoice in being part of the Army and in being called upon for extra service is plain from this excerpt from another letter written by Miss Prevot.

ARMY A WONDERFUL THING

September 26, 1918.
A. P. O. 774 A. E. F.

DEAREST MOTHER:

We had another interesting time a little while ago which kept us busy for a time; it was so very, very interesting. Think of moving into a new H. Q., getting all the wiring done, and everyone settled in just a few days! The Army is certainly a wonderful thing to be part of,—especially the T. S., for we certainly consider ourselves part of the Army and are proud of it. Where we are now the girls are "on" all of the twenty-four hours,—no men to come on at night as in our last places.

V

In times gone by it was not an uncommon thing to wish for the wings of a bird, so that one could fly. Miss Prevot, however, puts that desire into up-to-date form. One day, when she was on an aviation field, she inquired for a friend and found that he was up on a patrol and would be down in a few minutes. "The officer in charge of the squadron," she said, "took us all around and explained everything. It was perfectly fascinating. Suddenly, off in the distance we saw six dots, and in a few minutes they were down beside us." And she sighs: *"My! I almost wish I were a boy, so that I could fly!"*

She, too, speaks of their barracks:

FRANCE, September 29, 1918.

DEAR MOTHER:

I am getting quite used to living in suitcases; I manage quite well. I won't know myself when I get back to the States, getting up at half-past five, going for a walk from six to half-past, breakfast, and ready for duty at seven. One must go to bed early, as there is nothing to do, and one has to go to bed to keep warm.

Miss Russel is trying to take my picture. Imagine an old barracks, with all sorts of posters of Liberty Loans on the wall, some kind of paper on the floor,—tar, I think,—two or three chairs in one corner, a table, and a fireless cooker,—quite an *ensemble*."

An Old, Sweet Song

IN the meantime, the girls back at G. H. Q., as they call it, and those located in other places, work and play with a will. At Tours, Miss Edmé LeRoux, of ....., tells us she had no time for loneliness, as she had the pleasure of taking up once more the threads of broken relationships, and of renewing her study of music. She also speaks of trips into the country, and experiences in the performance of her work.

Miss Edmée LeRoux

Midnight, September 3, 1918.

While I was in Tours I spent wonderful days. The weather was delightful and warm, with hardly any rain to speak of.

As we were attending conferences, we had plenty of spare time, and I used to go out into the country on long trips, and visit châteaux and old farms where real old people lived as their ancestors had a good hundred years ago.

One particular old farm that I visited will forever stay in my mind. It was quite a distance from Tours, and the trip there was particularly lovely for the reason that I passed many homes, built right in huge rock. At one of these places, the old people were very much interested in us, in our uniform, and especially in our boys. The old lady said that never an American regiment would pass by her door without her giving them some flowers from her garden.

They were from Alsace, and how they love their country!

I sang an old Alsatian song for them and I accompanied myself on an old organ they had. There was that dear old man listening so quietly with big tears in his eyes. It made him so happy to hear the song once more, that he simply could not thank me enough.

While at Tours, one of the things which impressed me most was Sunday morning at church.

The old Cathedral is a wonderful piece of architecture and so very old that some people are afraid to attend services there, as they expect it to tumble down some day.

The first Sunday I was there, I assisted at the high mass, and when I saw so many wounded, some accompanied with their old mothers, with such a proud smile upon their faces, to tell you the truth, I cried the whole length of the mass.

If only you in America could really see it all, how great you would find this France. The sacrifices these poor women have made are beyond belief, and I believe only a French soul could really bear it all, as we Americans have never suffered to the same extent since history began for us.

The women here remind me of Constantinople, with their very deep mourning. They look like the Turkish women, all wrapped up in their Tcharchaf, for the French women hang long veils covering them from head to foot. One never knows whether the woman one passes is young or old, pretty or otherwise. They all look alike, silent passing forms, and that is all.

I don't suppose you could guess what I am doing to-night? At the last moment, the night operator, "a man," sent word that he was very ill and could not come on his night duty, so Miss Batta and I have volunteered to work all night, and here we are.

ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS LATER

Just as I was finishing my last sentence our wire chief, who is wonderful to us all, brought us two some steaming hot coffee, ten toasts with a lot of butter on them, and some sliced tomatoes. Can you imagine a lovelier meal for two starved girls in the middle of the night? No, you can't!

I have found all my old dear friends here in Paris, and my girl friends, who have been studying music since before the war broke out, and I have renewed our friendship, as well as musical entertainments among ourselves. I use all my spare time in continuing my lessons, so that my life is well filled, with no time for loneliness. We also go to the opera quite often.

"Where There's a Will"

ON October 31, E. N. Lowe celebrated his ninth anniversary as Local Manager at Salamanca by breaking all local records for quick distribution of telephone directories.

Federal and Bell exchanges in Salamanca consolidated on November 1, and, according to plan, distribution of the new books, containing hundreds of number changes, was to have been completed in the shortest possible space of time just before consolidation. Local Manager Lowe met this responsibility by finishing the distribution in five hours—an unprecedented performance in Salamanca. And this is how he did it:

He knew that Mrs. C. R. McCann, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Red Cross, had an organization of boys and girls who had worked on Liberty Loan and Red Cross drives. He told Mrs. McCann of the requirements and of the rate of pay in the directory job. She was sure her "volunteers" could do the work required. And they did. They delivered 1,400 books in five hours.

A man's reach should escape his grasp,
Or what's Heaven for?
This little man sees a little thing to do,
Sees it and does it;
This high man with a great thing to pursue
Dies ere he knows it.

—Browning.

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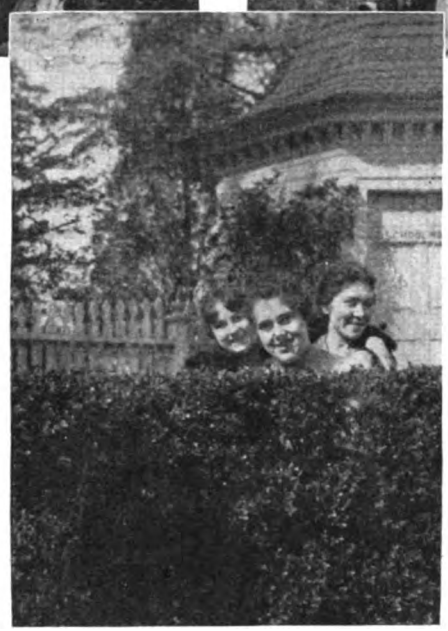
Enthusiasm and Coöperation

Washington Operators Largely Responsible for Success of Company's Housing System

A picnic lunch in Rock Creek Park. The out-of-town operators enjoy every minute of their outdoor parties

A favorite way of "Seeing Washington," the bus. A trip to Alexandria



Washington's home at Mt. Vernon has a great fascination for the girls. Every holiday or "day off" finds many of them "exploring"

WHEN the times return once more to normal and we begin to view dispassionately the part played in the war by various people, certain groups will claim recognition for splendid service.

Written in letters of gold upon the honor roll will be "The Telephone Operator," who enlisted her every energy in the determination to serve her country.

In every central office, girls bore the brunt of extraordinarily heavy traffic, and of a working force decreased by the terrible epidemic of influenza that swept over the country and depleted by demands for help in other fields of government work.

Handicapped by added work and extra strain, these operators nevertheless met the demand made upon them.

First Steps

But their services were not confined only to their own exchanges. When the call came for volunteers to go to Washington, more than enough offered to leave their homes and friends temporarily to help at the Capitol. This was only another evidence of the loyalty that has actuated the telephone operator ever since the time when she made that branch of work her own.

The New York Telephone Company is proud of its operators, who "carried on" in the true spirit of the soldier, and who will continue to do so as long as there is need.

Realizing the gravity of the housing problem in Washington, and being concerned lest the girls should suffer through inability to obtain proper homes and wholesome food while serving there, the Company took upon itself the enormous task of taking over houses, equipping them, arranging for catering, and the hundred other things that had to be taken into consideration.

However, the efforts of the Company might not have met with success had it not been for the way in which the girls themselves joined in eagerly and enthusiastically with every proposal. When the first problems of housing and "eats" had been settled, when chaperons had become acquainted with all their many children, and the girls had grown accustomed to the Washington "tactics" in telephony, the Company considered that all was well,—for a beginning.

The next consideration was—fun! The girls themselves were strangers in Washington, and could not very well plan their own tours and entertainments. A recreation supervisor was added to the staff, and dances and parties *ad infinitum* were arranged with the assistance of the girls.

Then, there was a perfectly good swimming pool going to waste, and several amateur Annette Kellermans longing to try their art in diving. A physical director was secured. The need for expression was felt,—and lo! *The Bell Volunteer* appeared.

The splendid part of the whole thing was that it was so spontaneous. The need for lectures, classes, diversion, and "what-not" was felt, and then met. It can be said that the whole scheme was the direct expression of the development of the girls themselves, and an outgrowth of their desires.

The Spell of Washington

Of course, as the girls did not know just how long their stay in Washington would be, they did not procrastinate. Tours of Washington and the surrounding country were made, often by bus, and on them these out-of-town operators in Washington rubbed elbows with Washington folk and tradition.

To get the real flavor of a city, it is necessary to dwell in it. That these operators have felt the influence of the spell of the National Capitol is evidenced by this little excerpt from an appreciation written by one of their number. It appeared in *The Bell Volunteer* under the title of "The Music of Mount Vernon."

It takes the pen of a poet to even touch upon the mysterious beauty of this spot, but I am assured there was not one of us there who did not feel it, not one who did not hear the music, or who did not feel herself transported to those long-ago days. The very smell of the "box" in the simple little garden, the funny discomfort of the old-time kitchen, the quaint bed

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Operators at Washington who were "off duty" and who took part in the parade which opened the United War Workers' Campaign on November 11. In the center, Miss Katherine Bitterman, Buffalo, N. Y.; at her right, Miss Bessie Connors, Albany; at her left, Miss Martha Klaus, New York City

rooms (surely splendor in those days), the laces and furbelows and rings and things—all set our imagination on fire, and we peopled the House of Washington with a merry gathering—perhaps a Christmas party, with a lighted candle shining through the old-fashioned square panes, while within, a group with powdered hair and pleated skirts, sang carols to the soft accompaniment of the spinnet—and, wonder of it all, we were "one of them"—it was ours by right of a common heritage.

Yet the music of Mount Vernon is not all merry. We do not make light of the difficulties and dangers of those early days, and, woven through the happy themes, there are motifs of struggle and hardships, of human misery and disappointment, the unavoidability of death, but over it all, like a beautiful benediction, the peace of nature, the magic of the out-of-doors, and the eternal hope of this our Land of Liberty.

In writing of a bus ride to Arlington, another of the girls says:

The grounds where these brave men lie were once owned by the great Confederate general, Robert E. Lee, who fought so gallantly for what he thought was right. On the inside of the mansion, which overlooks the Potomac, are many antique pieces, while in one of the rooms is a register containing the names of a great number of noted visitors. On the walls are hung many original manuscripts which have gone down in history, one of them being the famous "Gettysburg Address," which was spoken at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery during the Civil War.

Hallowe'en Festivities

There was great rejoicing when, two days before Hallowe'en, Dr. Mundell, the Medical Supervisor for the out-of-town operators, raised the ban on gatherings, the epidemic of influenza being once more under control. While the closing of the theatres had been trying, nevertheless, it had failed to quench the good spirits of the girls, which effervesced once more in gala Hallowe'en parties at the various houses.

In the time-honored way, daring ones peeped into the future, and some even had the temerity to search the lower regions of the house for the fugitive reflections of their "husbands-to-be." Old games were revived, and prizes were given for costumes. Among those who carried away the honors were Miss Gertrude Organ, of Weehawken, N. J.; Miss May Farrell, of Union Hill, N. J.; Miss Edna Westwood and Miss Marjorie Miller, of Connellsville, Pa.; Miss Angela Kerrigan, of Charlevoi, Pa.; Miss Deborah Gray; Miss Laura Smith, of Mount Holly, N. J.; Miss Marian Decker, of Albany, and Miss Catherine Flood, of Troy.

An Appropriate Poem

IT was a coincidence that the following poem should have appeared in the Baltimore *Sun* of October 3, so soon after medals had been presented by the Telephone Company to the out-of-town operators who had completed one year's service at Washington.

The sentiment is equally applicable to them and to the other girls who are faithfully sticking to their regular work and serving their country and the public.

The Soldiers of the Switchboard

I want a cross of honor to pin on some one now
Who is not in trenches nor on the firing line
The soldiers of the switchboard who are helping, too, somehow,
To keep the boches running to their ramparts o'er the Rhine.

I want a crown of glory to place on their heads, too,
For all their splendid service, their patience and their skill—
The soldiers of the switchboard who put your message through.
And give a loving service to their country with a will.

I want a song to cheer them as each day rolls along
So full of tiresome labor with receivers at their ear—
The soldiers of the switchboard, who deserve a bit of song,
A word of golden comfort and a hip-hurrah of cheer.

In Memoriam

Telephone operators who died in the service in Washington

Miss Loretta Kirshmeyer, Buffalo, N. Y.
Miss Sarah Dykeman, Albany, N. Y.
Miss Frances Raetz, Rochester, N. Y.
Mrs. Clara Minting, Philadelphia, Pa.

"Not for Fame or Reward,
Not for Place or for Rank,
Not lured by Ambition
Or goaded by Necessity,
But in simple obedience to Duty
As they understood it."

"When Belgium Stemmed the Tide"

OF the many compliments paid the American Telephone and Telegraph Company on its advertisements, none is more highly appreciated than the request by Major Leon Osterrieth, Chief of the Belgian Military Mission, for the original painting "When Belgium Stemmed the Tide," and the use which has been made of it. This picture appeared on the outside back cover of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW for September, 1918.

The following letter was received by Mr. Kingsbury:

Washington, D. C., Nov. 22, 1918.

DEAR SIR:

I have just received the original painting entitled, "When Belgium Stemmed the Tide," which was used in your advertising during the last Liberty Loan Drive.

This is a splendid picture, and it is my intention to send it to Belgium to be placed in the Museum of the Army.

Please accept the assurance of my high appreciation of your courtesy and kindness, and believe me,

Very sincerely yours,
MAJOR LEON OSTERRIETH,
Chief of the Belgion Military Mission.

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Telephone Men in the War

PERHAPS no one is more proud of the American soldiers than their officers, who cannot resist telling about the wonderful stuff of which they are made. In a recent letter from Captain C. A. Wild, which we regret not being able to publish *in toto*, we get a picture of our Americans, — both officers and men,—at the Front, determined, happy in spite of everything and anything, and preserving their sense of humor above all. Captain Wild writes:

I was on an inspection trip of my company in the trenches yesterday, and the bombardment was so heavy that it held me in a dugout for three hours, but as soon as they stopped, business went on as usual, and then the officers sent in their reports, and said, *"Everything is quiet as usual."*

I was recently paying off my Company in the trenches, when the Germans started in to bombard us, but I kept on paying as if nothing had happened. The men were more interested in the amount of French money they were getting than in the bombardment; nothing at all seems to worry them. They act like a lot of veterans who never did anything else in life but fight. But of such is the U. S. soldier, and the country has just cause to be extremely proud of him. I know I am proud of the way they are conducting themselves.

There was a German sniper shooting at one of our posts in the trenches, and every time he would miss his target, one of the crazy U. S. Infantry men would wave a small flag and holler, *"A miss!"* just as though we were on a rifle range in the U. S.

[Captain Wild was formerly in the Manhattan-Bronx Plant Department.]

Soldiers of the U. S. A.

Lieutenant George C. Donnelly briefly presents a graphic picture of our American soldier:

In the fighting man you find as manly, as clean a chap as the land affords. A nomad, signed and sealed to fatalism *a la extrême*, he radiates a subtle sense of humor that carries on through darkest of hours and portrays life full and flowing with carefree optimism.

He is patient, kind; finds amusement and diversion in those simple things which a few years ago would seem mere child's play. In fact, he is a big, good-natured kid.

All the hardships were endured with an astonishing cheerfulness, and were considered as necessary steps to the desired goal:

The old familiar sign, on duty up near the firing line. It was taken by some of the men from Camp Alfred Vail, and attached to a tree under which the Signal Corps men were working in France

We are having a great life of it now, as we sleep wherever we can. Just now we are sleeping in our dog tents in the woods, and believe me, it is some cold; but we don't care, as we know the Huns are being beaten to a pulp.

MUSICIAN D. E. LOREY

[Formerly of the Long Island Revenue Accounting Department.]

Sergt. A. G. O. Anderson Just returned from a big job, A. E. F.

James W. West, 2nd Lieut., Co. D, 407 Tel. B'n.

John Noll, France, who sends his best regards to his friends in the Company

Is it any wonder we won?

The boys are anxious to give credit where credit is due, and remarks like this one quoted from a letter of Captain C. F. Danner. Captain of Co. B, 306th Field Signal Battalion, are common:

On the whole the situation is very satisfactory and the American Army Officials certainly deserve a great deal of credit for handling their tremendous job so adequately.

[Captain Danner was an outside plant engineer at Buffalo, New York, before enlisting.]

The war is over, but it has left its indelible mark upon our men who fought in it and worked for it. One can never go through a great experience and remain untouched. He is either better or worse for it. It is safe to say that the soldier who returns from the Front is a radically different man from what he was,—bigger, broader of vision, with a finer sense of the proportion of things, and a firmer will. Such a man has learned to adapt himself to conditions as they are, and, when he returns, he will take up his tasks at home with the same enthusiasm and energy that characterized his work abroad.

The words of Private James Gross, of the 404th Telegraph Battalion, once in the Plant Department, Manhattan-Bronx Division, throw light on what brought about our victory:

Now that I am over here, I am going to work, and work hard,—even harder than I did when I was at the camps in America. I am glad I am over here, and I am going to stick and go through with it and fight with my whole heart and soul on the job. We have fine officers. We have their full coöperation, and they have ours.

Another man, Sergeant-Major C. Moesser,

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also of the 404th Battalion, says the same thing in a different way:

Often since last October I have wished that I were back again at my desk and I know a telephone bell in my ear would have been sweeter than any kind of music. However, this work has its compensations, and I am not at all sorry that it has been possible for me to have a part in this great big thing.

The satisfaction of having been a part of the successful war in which we are engaged is in itself a sufficient reward for any sacrifice and for real, honest to goodness, hard work.

There was a time when I thought I knew what hard work was. It took the army to prove to me that I did not know. However, now I know. A little seven-hour day, five days a week would be like a vacation.

[Sergeant-Major Moesser was formerly in the Accounting Department, Long Island.]

Minds and Hearts in the Work

To "finish up the job," and to finish it up well was the ambition of every enlisted man. None of them were willing to let things take their course, and wait upon opportunity; they made their own situations. As Private Jack Arengo, once a porter in the telephone building at Buffalo, stated:

Germany is beginning to know what Uncle Sam can do when he makes up his mind. I am serving the good old Stars and Stripes as every good American should. It's our duty, and we're going to finish the big job.

This little bit, quoted from a letter of Private Stanley Harris, once splicer's helper at Rochester, might be applied to more than a telephone line. It shows the way our army men saw their task:

Just starting another fifty-mile line. Plenty of rock, but we have lots of dynamite.

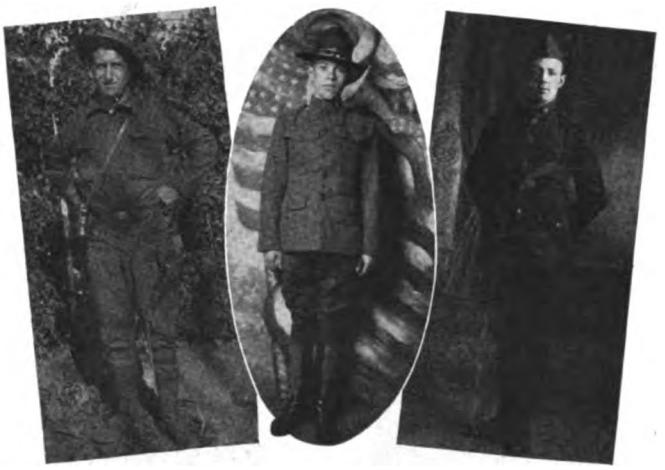
The Way They Work

Chauffeur Harold E. Uhrig, of Company E, 404th Telegraph Battalion, writes a little story of how the telegraph battalion worked to complete a job, which is characteristic of the way in which the men in the trenches were supported by their comrades in the construction end. After describing his trip to his temporary barracks, he continues:

We started the job . . . three weeks behind the time given, and had three months (including that lost time) in which to complete it.

Well, we started to work with hardly any tools. About a week later our tools arrived. When the job was completed, we found that we were three weeks ahead of time.

We had to dig all the holes, put the poles up, and cart them to their places. We put a five pair line up. We heard later that the job was done in record time.



Chauffeur Harold E. Uhrig, Co. E, 404th Tel. B'n., A. E. F. Private James Gross Martin J. Dunn, Jr., Co. C, 501st Engineers, A. E. F.

Chauffeur Uhrig, after telling of what a fine time they all are having, ends by saying:

I was formerly employed in the Elizabeth district as installer. I sure would like to be back on the job again. The State of good old New Jersey isn't such a bad place after all. We have met several of the telephone girls who are doing telephone work in Paris. We will all be back on the job in a few months again.

A group of N. Y. telephone boys of the 407th Tel. B'n., A. E. F.

Seeing the World

Besides being an education in itself, traveling has proved a great source of pleasure to the boys who had the opportunity of exploring the Old-World wonders. They seem especially enthusiastic about Aix-Les-Bains, with its wonderful baths, and trips to mountains and lakes in its environs. For instance, Sergeant E. J. Patterson, formerly in the Plant Department, New Jersey Division, was able to visit many places in the French Alps:

The hardest, but the best trip of all was climbing to the top of Cat's Tooth. It is 4,500 feet above Aix, and it took four hours to make the climb. During the latter part of the trip, you had to watch every step.

On top there is room for about thirty people; even at that you don't feel like moving around much.

Another telephone man, Sergeant Terence C. Brady, from the Engineering Department, also comments on the scenery:

The trip inland was one of the most beautiful scenic exhibitions I have ever witnessed. I have often heard of the wonderful scenery in France, Switzerland, and other of the European countries, but did not think it would be much, if any, superior to that to be seen in our own country; but what I have seen this week has caused me to very decisively change my mind. It was nothing short of marvelous.

The towns are spotlessly clean, and very artistically laid out. Practically all of the houses are of stone, inlaid between the joints with colored gravel. All of the roads are good, and are lined on both sides with tall, straight trees. Even the fields under cultivation seem to have been planted with the idea of making them look as pretty as possible.

Lieutenant H. W. Graham, formerly in the Tremont Commercial Office, has a storehouse of experience culled from his travels in France, which, instead of detracting from his love of his own country, has enriched and deepened it. He writes:

I think of you many, many times, and wonder how you are meeting the new problems that the War must be forcing on you every day. I'll bet that sometimes you wish you were safe in the trenches; don't you?

Telephones are still classed with bath tubs in Paris,—only used in cases of dire necessity.

I have been very fortunate since I arrived in France in having the opportunity to travel about on military missions and have already made two almost complete circles of the battle lines from Belgium and the channel to the Swiss border. Of course, this always includes stop-overs in Paris, both going and returning to my own Headquarters.

Like everybody else, I fell in love with Paris, probably because it reminded me so of dear little old New York. If I couldn't live in New York, I think I should be content in Paris.

But, while I admire the beauties of the French town, still, the old spot on the Hudson still leads. It's a fine thing to travel; one can't appreciate America until he does. . . .

Lieutenant Graham was with the British at the time when he wrote this letter, and was about to go over the top. His comment is typically American:

Now for the wild country, where men put on clean collars to go out and die, and rice pudding is served in burlap bags. And if I get bumped off, I hope to have the courage to go out like the British officers, smiling and swearing, and I guess the good Lord will forgive a guy swearing at the Huns, don't you?

Charles T. Beckwith, formerly an installer in the Manhattan-Bronx Plant Department was wounded while serving with the "Old 69th" and has been a prisoner in a hospital at Rastat, Germany.

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American soldiers in France receiving and recording telephone messages

Committee on Public Information

On the Firing Line

LETTERS! They are the only link, practically, that connects us personally with our boys who are in the big fight. Some are short, some are long, all are welcome! Occasionally one comes that seems to transport us directly to the Front, so vividly does it describe the daily life over in the trenches, or in the camps and billets. No matter how sordid the details, how thrilling the dangers,—all give the impression of having been written with a philosophical grin that means to say, "We'll see this thing through. No matter what hardships we endure, they are not too much, when one considers the cause." How long, though, would the soldier and sailor boys and the aviators continue to feel that way, if they thought that we were unresponsive? It is our part to constantly reassure them, by actions as well as words, that we, too, can make sacrifices to make them comfortable.

Lieutenant Harold F. Cotter, of the 302nd Field Battalion, who, before his enlistment was an engineer in the office of the Long Island Traffic Engineer, has written a letter that should grip every one of us. Danger, pluck, endurance, hardship,—all are a part of their every-day existence, and yet they smile. They smile,—three thousand odd miles away from home, cut off from all they love. They smile, and our hearts contract when we think of what they have borne,—for us. Their message to us was "On to Berlin!" Ours to them speeds on, "We are with you, first, last, and always!"

Cootieville on the Bum, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. YATES:

Yes, the war still functions and rather violently at that. In this particular place it is rather an intensive war, as the Yanks and the Boche are having a most unclubby dispute as to who shall have possession of some small towns, ridges, and such. The Boche was pitched out of those places a few days ago and is putting up quite a scrap to get them back. But his efforts are most unavailing as every time he starts a show he loses more men and territory. One would think that he would get tired of that sort of thing, but he seems to be a bear for punishment. One of the Boche prisoners questioned a day or so ago told us that the rank and file of his outfit were pretty well fed up with this war business but their All-Highest keeps telling them to pull up their socks and stick to it as Germany will win out by Christmas or some other holiday; but is rather careful not to state which Christmas, Easter, or Fourth of July he means.

IN THE THICK OF IT

I happened across Shearer the other day. He is in ——— near ——— and going strong. He said that Rhoads was back from the S. O. S. (Service of Supply) and was with E Company of the outfit. Met Graham, the old Greenpoint wire chief, also. He has recently been commissioned and is an instructor at the Army Signal School. I was at the school for a month. Quite a change it was to go to school. At first it was rather a novel idea for me to sleep in a regular bed and not hear some thirty odd thousand guns going all night long. When school finished I came back to the old outfit and just joined them in time to get mixed up in this show. I have been in several shows here, but this is by far the best that I have functioned in. Something is stirring every minute. Between scratching cootie and flea bites and dodging shells one is kept rather busy. It's rather hard work to keep telephone lines intact, as they are constantly being cut by shell fire and linemen are kept on the job 24 hours of the day. Lots of the lines can only be repaired at night as that is the only time that men can snake out over them without being seen by the Boche and sniped at with 77's and machine guns.

HOUSEKEEPING AT THE FRONT

A couple of my men did a damn good job the other day. A call came to rush a line up to a new observation post that had been established and two men went out carrying a reel of twisted pair between them. A shell came along and blew the reel clean away from them and knocked them flat, covering them with stones and everything else. Back they came to our station, looking like nothing on earth, for a new reel of wire, and out they went again. In about an hour one of them called in for a test on the

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new line. When they got back and washed up, the first thing they did was to set up a growl because dinner was about 15 minutes late. The cook came back with the growl that the Boche had wrecked the "kitchen" the night before and that he had to do all his cooking on a stove improvised from an empty powder can whereas his "kitchen" proper had consisted of two such stoves and his kitchen table, a dressing table taken from some countess' boudoir in a château close by.

There isn't a civilian within 15 miles, I guess, and were they here there would be no place for them to live, as every building is in ruins from constant shell fire.

You should see our telephone central offices. They are all situated in dugouts or cellars that have been reinforced by logs, sand bags, and such. We have one especially classy one that has a retiring and dining room connected with it, the retiring and dining room being an old vaulted wine cellar connected to the cellar proper where the board is located. Pewter candle sticks years old adorn the table and meals are served on china that collectors would give a young fortune to possess. The fellows say that bully beef and corned Willie tastes so much better when served this way! An empty shell case serves as an ash tray and gas alarm.

The floors are cleaned daily with a stable broom and fresh chloride of lime sprinkled on them. The beds where the fellows sleep consist of chicken coop wire stretched tight over some boards.

I have a most swanky dugout, as I have a telephone on the table, boards on the floor, and a piece of a mirror nailed up over the bench where I keep my wash bucket. All our dugouts have double gas-proof doors or curtains on them and we are most comfortable. So long as the Fatimas hold out we haven't a care or worry in the world. We are most fortunate in this regard though, as we were down to our last bag of Bull Durham for eleven of us, when we happened across a Red Cross advanced unit and they came through with cigarettes and chocolate for the outfit.

We have a corking captain. If there is any tobacco or chocolate to be had he brings it up to us when he visits us daily. To-day he promised to try and find some soldier who is a barber and bring him up to us if possible. It's not that we need our hair cut or anything like that, but we hate to be taken for ham actors or Greenwich Village artists.

While all of our lines are working O. K. most of the time, I would hate to have Mr. Greene pass on our construction or maintenance practices. I fear that they differ slightly from A. T. & T. standard practices. Forward of corps I don't believe that you will find a soldered joint, and, forward of regiment, if the joint is properly taped we are lucky, as practically all our repair work is done at night in pitch dark, as a light means you start "pushing up the daisies," *toute de suite.*

WHEN HE TALKED OF PIE!

Murder was all but done the night before last when one of the fellows when going to bed made mention of the fact that he would like to see what a bath tub looked like; also a beefsteak that big, covered with mushrooms and some apple pie just suffocated with ice-cream.

When I get back to the States I am going to try to have a law passed whereby it will be a felony to offer an ex-soldier bully beef or canned salmon in any shape, manner, or form, and if the ex-soldier is married, the first appearance of the above mentioned articles on the family board will be sufficient grounds for divorce, without alimony or separation allowances. We all realize what a tough job it is to get chow over here to us and when over here how hard it is to push it up forward, but if we didn't kick about something we wouldn't be healthy or normal.

How are all the people in the office? I wish that you would bear them my regards and tell them that if the United States does not go Prohibition I'll soon be back to tell them all about it.

HAROLD F. COTTER.
Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

"With Their Faces to the Foe"

JOHN MURRAY, who, before entering the service was in the Building and Supplies Department, Long Island Division, adds another thrilling tale of the fearlessness of our men in battle to the many already told about the exploits of the famous "69th":

The Boche hurled over a rolling barrage that made you think nothing could live under its raining hell. Yet survive we did, for our Company marched eight miles under it without the loss of a man.

Next morning we were rushed up to the front lines, and at noon we knew they were coming over, for the barrage was lifted from our front line. We saw them plainly scrambling over the top, dash out in paths they cut in their wire and re-form again in company front in No Man's Land. On they came with their officers at their head, swinging their swagger sticks as jauntily as if they were in the streets of Berlin. There were two seventy-fives in our part of the line that tore great gaps in their line, only to have them filled up from the rear and still come on. When they neared our wire our machine guns cut them down as a reaper cuts grain, yet they still pressed on.

They were the Prussian guards, and truly they were brave men. They went under our wire as easily as a rabbit dog through a brush patch. We worked our rifles until they came within grenade throwing distance, and then we stood on top of the parapet giving them four grenades for every one they gave. They melted away like ants scalded out of their nest. It must have been a sad shock to the Kaiser, for he was on our Front that day to see his shock troops punish the American "mob in uniform," as he dubbed us.

After we stopped the Boche in Champagne we were brought up to Chateau Thierry in autotrucks, and the Boche was traveling so fast that it took two days hard hiking for us to catch up with their rear guard. At last we reached a shell ravished village and we waited till dawn to attack. Then when the sun rose, we formed in a ditch along the side of a road and waited the word to go over. We discarded everything but our belts, bandeers and rifles, which made us feel as light as thistle seed after carrying our bulky packs. The Captain, after studying his watch announced the zero hour and a wild whoop went along the line. "Up and at them boys," yelled the Captain, "show them what American guts and gunpowder can do!" "Let go!" shouted back the line and over the top we went while Boche bullets hummed around us like a million hornets. We reached our first objective with hardly the loss of a man and we mopped up the Boche machine gunners in a short time. I saw a German for the first time put up a fight with a bayonet. He was being chased by an Irishman as big as Rodon's "Thinker" and he turned around and threw a potato masher at his opponent, but the Irishman ducked and the grenade exploded in back of him. He must have heard the other gaining on him, for he turned and drove a long point for the giant's neck, but the Celt was too fast for him. He drove a short point into the Hun's guts. We advanced something like two miles when I was hit by a great splash of darkness and I woke up in a hospital.

I saw a lot of men die that day, but they all died facing the German lines. They gave their all defending the good old U. S. A.

6,000 Telephones in Use at St. Mihiel

Five Thousand Miles of Wire Used and 10,000 Employed in Operating Signal System

Five thousand miles of wire was laid on the St. Mihiel salient and on its borders before the attack, and immediately after the Americans advanced 6,000 telephone instruments were connected with these wires throughout the battle zone.

When the battle opened on the morning of Sept. 12 trucks started northward at a speed of seven miles an hour, unreeling wires across No Man's Land until they reached points where the reels had to be carried by Signal Corps men afoot.

Such work as this made it possible in the recent battle for American officers whose troops had flanked the foe's trenches to telephone back, informing the artillery of the exact location of the enemy trenches and in a few minutes bringing a deluge of metal on the boche.

Telephone squads carried these lines up to the fighting front on Thursday morning and soon in the triangular battleground there was a telephone system in operation that would have been adequate to handle the telephone business of a city of 100,000, and it was going at top efficiency. The branch lines were connected with the main axis, which was established through the middle of the Salient. Ten thousand men were busily engaged in operating the system. Many of the 'phone exchanges were on wheels. Several thousand carrier pigeons supplemented the work of the Signal Corps.

We captured a tremendous quantity of German signal supplies, 500 miles of German wire, many switchboards, one radio truck, and numerous batteries.—*New York Times.*

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Items of Interest

CHARLES G. DUBOIS, Comptroller of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, has been elected a Vice-President of the Western Electric Company, and thus returns to the organization with which he began his business career twenty-seven years ago, after his graduation from Dartmouth College in 1891. His first work was in the accounting department, and in 1896 he was appointed chief clerk at New York. In 1898 he was elected secretary of the Company and transferred to Chicago. His enlarged duties gave full scope to his splendid abilities, and in 1907 Mr. DuBois was transferred from the Western Electric Company to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company as its comptroller. His distinguished services have won for him widespread recognition, and when the American Red Cross Society was being reorganized, he went to Washington at the request of Mr. Davison to serve as its comptroller. After systematizing the Red Cross accounting work and organizing a department to carry it on, he returned to New York, but continues an active interest in the Society and general supervision over its accounts.

WALTER S. GIFFORD, until recently Director of the Council of National Defense, has been appointed Comptroller of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and has entered upon his new duties. Mr. Gifford was formerly Chief Statistician of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and was loaned by that company at the request of Secretary Baker to assist in the organization of the Council of National Defense.

In accepting Mr. Gifford's resignation as Director of the Council, Secretary Baker wrote as follows:

THE SECRETARY OF WAR
(SEAL) WASHINGTON
October 30, 1918.

MY DEAR MR. GIFFORD:

The Council of National Defense has charged me with the expression of its deep appreciation of the services which you have rendered as Director and to express its regret at your separation from the public service and from the work of the Council. Your letter submitting your resignation very generously leaves the Council to determine whether the exigencies of the public business justify its acceptance. We have, therefore, weighed the matter and feel that we would not be justified in asking Mr. Vail and the Telephone Company further to extend your leave of absence in view of the circumstances recited by your letter, and also in view of the fact that much of the constructive work which the Council was called upon to undertake in the preparation of the country for war activities has now been performed and committed to regularly organized parts of established agencies of the Government for future performance. We, therefore, reluctantly accept the resignation.

The termination of your activity as Director of the Council gives me an opportunity to express the grateful appreciation of the Council for the energy, loyalty, and success with which you have acted as the executive officer since the formation of the Council. The work entrusted to us and to you was difficult, urgent, and of great importance; to its successful performance you have contributed at every point, and it will always be a satisfaction to you to know that the members of the Council feel that the conversion of America from a country at peace to a country prepared for war and waging war successfully was the work in which you had borne a helpful and considerable part.

Cordially yours,
NEWTON D. BAKER.

Mr. Walter S. Gifford,
Director, Council of National Defense.

IT is announced that Major F. L. Devereux, Auditor of the Long Lines Department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, has been made a Lieutenant-Colonel.

Colonel Devereux was loaned to the War Department in November, 1917, at the request of the Quartermaster-General, to assist in the reorganization of the supply work, and has been in charge of the Requirements Branch of the Quartermaster Corps.

With his promotion, he is transferred to the Purchase, Storage, and Traffic Division of the General Staff, where he will head the Requirements Division, which is to exercise supervision over the supply requirements of the entire Army and to coördinate the supply program.

DURING the season of 1918, 298 Plant Department employees in the Western Division had gardens. The employees who cultivated gardens are distributed as follows:

Division Equipment Superintendent's force, 123; Division Construction Superintendent's force, 92; Division Cable Superintendent's force, 37; Division Supervision of Buildings and Supplies' force, 17; Division Plant Engineer's force, 15; Division Office force, 14; total, 298.

To get the detail of yields and information as to size of plots cultivated for these 298 gardens would be a large job; suffice it to say, therefore, that about 30% of our Western Division plant employees had gardens, and by producing foodstuffs aided in winning the war.

Snap Shots for the Absent Sailors and Soldiers

WE are constantly reminded that, although hostilities have ceased, our various duties and obligations have not ended. As long as there are soldiers and sailors abroad or in camp, our responsibility to provide for their moral and physical well-being still lives.

Let them not feel that now the fighting is over, they are going to be neglected, but rather let us strengthen the home ties and prepare our boys for the home coming that awaits them.

We know the joy with which letters and photographs from our own home folks are received, and especially how the memory is stirred and the heart grows fonder at the sight of loved faces and familiar scenes.

And so we bring to the attention of our readers a suggestion of the Red Triangle Club, formed under the auspices of the Newark, New Jersey, Camera Club, and working in collaboration with the Y. M. C. A. The territory covered by the Club at present is principally Essex County, Harrison, Kearney, Arlington, and Elizabeth, but the work is not confined to it. Any amateur photographers who have a camera can assist by sending their names to the Red Triangle Camera Club, 878-880 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey. They will be furnished with proper credentials and assigned to the homes of some of our boys in uniform, to take snap-shots of their parents, sisters, brothers, home scenes, or other pictures that will be of interest to absent ones. These pictures they will be requested to send to the boys with letters written on the Club stationery, which will be supplied, one copy of each photograph to be sent to the Club also. Full details will be given upon inquiry.

Every one who has a relative or friend in the service is invited to send to the Club at once such names, with the home address, so that a volunteer photographer may be sent around to take the pictures. It is desired that the names and addresses be written or typed on 3 x 5-inch cards, if convenient, with a note giving the name of the sender.

Was Quite Likely

A Boston man says that an exacting housewife in that city telephoned to a meat dealer's place of business that the next order "you receive from me will be the last." The man at the other end of the wire agreed with her. He said that he was an undertaker.—*Democrat and Chronicle.* Rochester, N. Y.

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Joseph P. Barnes

WORD has been received from France by the parents of Private Joseph P. Barnes, of 224 Pine Street, Elizabeth, N. J., that he died on September 26, 1918, as the result of wounds received while on duty. He had ascended a tower to repair some electrical wires when a shell hit the base of the tower. A fragment of the shell struck him and he died two hours afterward. To die in the performance of duty,—such is truly a death of honor.

Joseph P. Barnes

Private Barnes was employed as a clerk in the construction office, plant department, Newark, N. J. He left the Company, after eight years of service, to go to Camp Dix last February, and was there assigned to the Headquarters Company, 211th Infantry. He was twenty-eight years of age, and is survived by his father and mother, two sisters, and a brother.

Frank L. Simes

IN the gallant fighting of the 108th Regiment near St. Quentin, Lieutenant Frank L. Simes, of Rochester, N. Y., lost his life, dying at a casualty clearing station, of wounds received in the chest and lungs. Word has been received that he died on September 30, 1918, — the same day on which he was wounded.

Frank L. Simes

Lieutenant Simes was a member of the National Guard for eighteen years, and had served with it at the Mexican Border. At the beginning of the war he enlisted for Federal service, going first to Pelham Bay, then Camp Wadsworth, and finally to France, with Company H, 108th Infantry.

At the time of his entry into the war Lieutenant Simes was in the employ of the New York Telephone Company, with which he had been identified for nineteen years; he had worked his way from helper to wire chief, and then to storekeeper. His death is deeply felt by his many friends in the Company, who had been looking forward to his return.

Lieutenant Simes leaves a wife and one daughter.

David Gill

AMID all our rejoicing there is an element of pain,—sorrow for the boys that have died in the service, both here and on the other side. There is also a feeling of pride that they were so true to themselves, and so willing to make every sacrifice that was required of them.

David Gill

The parents of David Gill, formerly a splicer's helper in the construction force of the plant department, New Jersey Division, have just been notified of his death on October 6, 1918, on a Hospital Ship at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

On May 29, 1917, he enlisted to join the United States Navy, after only two months with the Company, and was assigned to the *U. S. S. Kentucky*. Determined to do all in his power to crush the Hun, he served faithfully to the end. It is to such as he that we owe our immeasurable gratitude and affection.

Frederick J. Sutter

NEWS has been received by relatives of Private Frederick J. Sutter, formerly a member of the Western Division, plant department, that he has succumbed to pneumonia in a hospital, Somewhere in France. The exact date of his death is not known as yet.

Private Sutter was drafted July 24, 1918, and sent to Camp Dix, Wrightstown, New Jersey. He sailed for France on September 1, 1918, and the news of his death is the first word that the Telephone Company has received since he sailed. He was a member of the Headquarters Company, 334th Field Artillery.

He was born at Olean, N. Y., April 24, 1892. After finishing school, he worked for a time as a locomotive fireman for the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg Railroad and the Pennsylvania Railroad. His employment with the Company covered two periods,—a total of approximately fourteen months.

Howard Breese

MANY of our brave American boys who volunteered for active work overseas were destined never to have their hopes realized, and died over here in the training camps. Nevertheless, their spirit was just as true, and their purpose just as firm as that which won victory for our veterans on the other side.

Howard Breese

Among these is numbered Private Howard Breese, a lineman in the construction force, plant department, New Jersey Division, before joining the service. He died on October 14, 1918, at Camp Colt, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Private Breese was engaged by the Company on April 11, 1910, and resigned on June 8, 1918, to join the Tank Corps in the United States Army. He was twenty-nine years old and is survived by his wife and one child.

Miss Jeanne Bourquin

IN the midst of preparations for their trip overseas to operate the switchboards for the American Army in France, the members of the Seventh Unit of Telephone Operators were saddened by the death of Miss Jeanne Bourquin, one of their number, who died of influenza in Hartford, on October 13, just after having completed her course of instruction.

Miss Jeanne Bourquin
Courtesy *Hartford Courant*

A funeral service was

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held in Hartford, which was attended by all the members of her Unit in training there, and a touching tribute to her was paid as all the other girls stood at attention in two files while her body was borne between them into the chapel, and again as it was removed.

The interment was at Woodhaven, Long Island, and a family service was held in the French chapel there, which was attended by Miss Lundell, supervisor of the Seventh Unit, and Mrs. Kortepeter, supervisor in charge of the next group which will go overff. As was fitting, this girl "soldier" was buried in her uniform, and her casket was draped with American and French flags. Miss Bourquin possessed an attractive personality and was regarded as an extremely efficient operator. Her interest in her work, and in the Red Cross and other activities, was intense, as she was of French descent, and she had a brother in the French Army from whom she had not heard for some months. She is survived by her mother.

That Uncanny Telephone Explained

IT would seem like a bad dream come true to live in a world without skyscrapers, trolley cars, electric lights, gasoline engines, or motor cars, yet these things were not in use forty-three years ago at the time Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.

In the early days of the telephone persons were very incredulous, because there was not such a wide background of successful mechanical inventions on which to base possibilities for future achievements as there is now.

Almost all who didn't believe that the telephone was possessed with some uncanny power, considered it a worthless contraption in the first few years after its invention in 1876. Constant explanations appeared in the papers.

An interesting account of one of the first telephone systems installed in England appeared in the *Telegraphic Journal,* January 1, 1880.

Messrs. Bass & Company, says the *Burton Chronicle,* now possess the most unique and comprehensive telephone department of any private firm in England. A central office has been established on the system of the public telephone exchanges at work in America, and more recently in London, Sheffield, and elsewhere. The wires, some of them nearly two miles in length, twelve in number, and springing from the offices of heads of departments, are terminated in the central office. In this office is also placed a very ingenious yet simple "switchboard," which provides the means of putting the ends of the wires in electrical connection. A series of brass "shutters" are attached to the switchboard, each shutter being engraven with the name of the office with which it is connected.

When a distant office desires communication, the shutter on that particular wire falls open. In a moment the operator in the central office, by the insertion of a brass plug, is informed the name of the other office with which communication is wanted. The insertion of another brass plug completes the joining of the two wires together, and the two offices, although miles away, are in oral communication with each other; the whole operation of putting them through having occupied three or four seconds. This vast concern now transacts its business, although covering so much ground, with the ease and freedom of being placed in one large building.

It only remains for us to add that the voice of the speaker at the most distant office was as plain and as familiar as if we were face to face, and the extreme sensitiveness of the apparatus was demonstrated by the fact that we heard whispering and the ticking of a watch with remarkable distinctness. A clerk is employed at the central office from 7 a. m. to 6 p. m. simply to attend to the telephone. The whole of the work in connection with the system has been carried out by Messrs. Tasker, Sons & Company, of Sheffield.

In Lower New York

WHEN Mr. Out-of-Towner turned the corner of Broad and Wall Streets, he stopped in amazement, positive that lower New York had been "gassed" and that its population had taken leave of its senses.

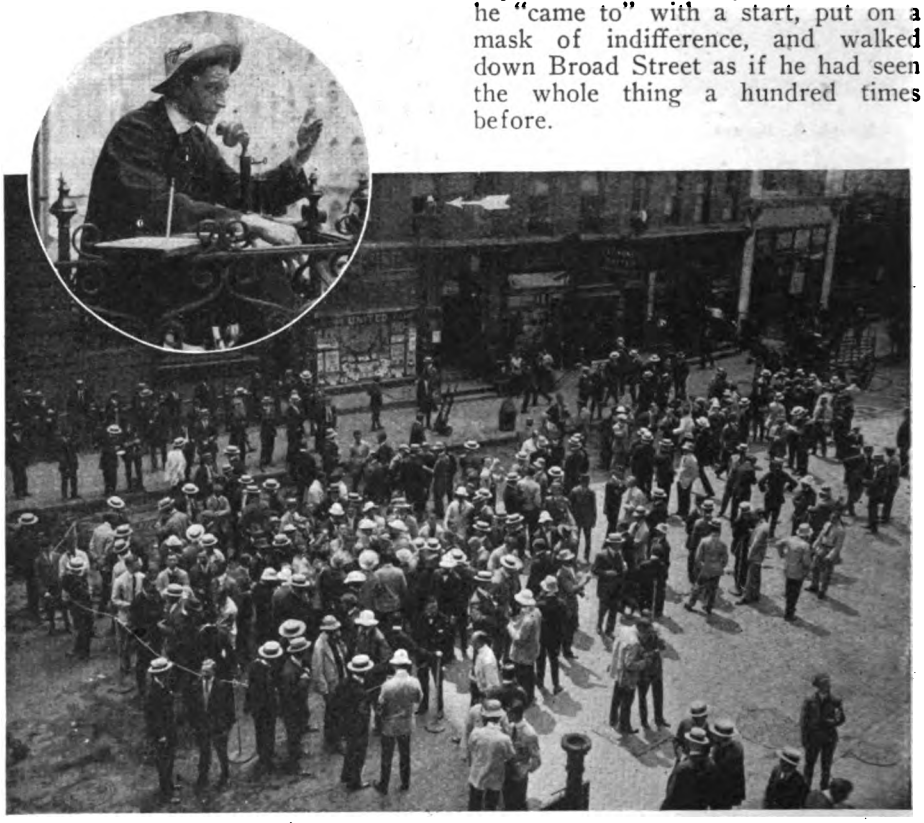
The street was filled with waving, gesticulating, shouting men, many of them wearing vari-colored hats and coats, and talking a queer mixture of the sign and vocal language. It was a veritable babel, for up in the buildings lining the street, other men and boys were crowded into every available window, and were sending back shout for shout and sign for sign.

Mr. Out-of-Towner saw only one familiar thing in this little scene, and that was the telephone, which seemed to be very popular with the men in the windows.

As he watched, it gradually dawned on him that "there was method in their madness," and, racking his brains, he suddenly came upon a forgotten memory that told him that he was looking upon the famous "curb" where stocks and bonds were bartered daily.

Then it was that he realized that over the wires were speeding messages and instructions from brokers' offices to their salesmen on the curb, and reports of sales.

Just then some one jostled him, and he "came to" with a start, put on a mask of indifference, and walked down Broad Street as if he had seen the whole thing a hundred times before.



THE CURB MARKET, BROAD AND WALL STREETS, NEW YORK

Some tenants of offices facing the street erect platforms inside their windows and rent space in the upper and lower halves to as many as four or five brokers for telephone operators who exchange facial and manual signs with representatievs on the "curb," the orders to buy or sell being transmitted over the telephone

Insert.—This operator has space on a balcony (indicated by an arrow in the larger picture).

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Louis A. Madden

IN the death of Louis A. Madden, which occurred on October 22, 1918, the New York Telephone Company suffered a great loss, for he took an active and personal interest in it during the thirteen years in which he served as Right-of-Way Agent and Special Agent. In fact, members of his family were connected with the Company from its earliest beginning down to the present time. Edward Madden, a brother, was one of the early associates of Mr. Vail. Mr. Madden was born April 6, 1859, and, after an extensive business experience, became Right-of-Way Agent in the metropolitan division of the plant department. On September 1, 1910, he was transferred to the engineering department as a Special Agent. From that time until his death his duties consisted in negotiating agreements for the joint use of poles with electric light and railway companies within the territory of the New York Telephone Company.

Louis A. Madden

The cause of his death was heart trouble, which became acute about six months ago. Although he had two or three bad attacks since then, he insisted on resuming as many of his duties at the office as was practicable.

Mr. Madden is survived by a wife and two children, and a brother.

Clarence Lyman Benjamin

ON October 19, 1918, Clarence Lyman Benjamin, Assistant District Traffic Chief, Hudson Division, with headquarters at Albany, died of pneumonia in the home of his brother at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, after an illness of seven days.

Clarence Lyman Benjamin

Mr. Benjamin was born in North Adams, Massachusetts, on November 18, 1885. He began his telephone career with the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company, being engaged on March 1, 1903, as a night operator in the North Adams central office, and served in various capacities until he resigned on May 16, 1906. In June, 1906, he was engaged by the Hudson River Telephone Company as an installer at Poughkeepsie, and remained there until June, 1907, when he resigned to enter the drug business with his brother in Stockbridge, in which he stayed for three years. On October 26, 1910, he returned to the Telephone Company as a clerk in the division traffic office at Albany. On December 11, 1910, he was made a traffic inspector. He was made assistant traffic chief at Albany on June 4, 1911, and clerk on November 19 of the same year, assistant traffic chief at Albany on January 7, 1912, and assistant district traffic chief of the Albany district, on April 28, 1915.

Help Feed the Hungry of the Earth

WE all felt very proud when the figures telling how much food we saved for our Allies during the past year were published. Now we learn that the demand upon us will be increased by half this year, as we must share our resources with "220,000,000 people of the Allies."

This year the Interallied Food Council agreed that America should provide 17,550,000 tons of food, fifty per cent. more than last year's achievement.

The Food Board asks that each family be a separate unit in the invincible American Food Army, eating every meal with the "wants of all the world in mind," guided by a "War Conscience," that will enable us to help feed the hungry of the earth.

Introducing Major W. C. Barbour, 403rd Tel. B'n.

MAJOR BARBOUR, in command of the 403rd Telegraph Battalion, apologizes for delaying to announce himself sooner, explaining that this is his "first war," and that in the rush of more pressing duties one is apt to forget his social obligations. And you ought to hear what he has to say about Company E!

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES,
October 14, 1918.

MR. G. C. ALLEN,
General Supt. of Plant,
New York Telephone Co.,
New York, N. Y.

DEAR SIR:

It has been called to my attention that a very necessary, established but unwritten routine, has been entirely neglected by the Commanding Officer of this Battalion, so I take this occasion to make my best bow and salutation, explaining in the same breath that this is my first war and some of the usages have no doubt been overlooked in the ramification of supplies and material, as well as the other minor obligations involved upon Headquarters.

There is a very appropriate little truth current in the army, to wit: "A Lieutenant knows nothing and does everything; a Captain knows everything and does nothing, while a Mapor knows nothing and does nothing." There is no doubt as to where this originated, and that the wit was an unbiased and practical person who stood humbly in the mess line three times per day, thereby having moments to cogitate on the eternal fitness of things. Just where this introduction has any bearing on my announcing myself as the newly appointed officer in command of one of the units enlisted from your company, I must deny all knowledge other than it was necessary to say something modest to start with and then gradually in the course of my writing, have you appreciate how well the bushel concealed the light.

I was enlisted from one of the Associated Bell Companies and came to France in the early part of this year with the Battalion representing the best of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. . . . . It is hardly necessary to describe my personal characteristics other than to say that I will never rival the Commanding Officer of the 407th Tel. B'n, which should be enough to satisfy all the young lady employees who may be interested in the welfare of this organization.

But to get down to brass tacks after wandering all around the place, it is with great pleasure and a deep sense of appreciation that I assure you that the men from the New York Telephone Company, forming Company "E" of this Battalion, are doing work that the officials of the telephone company may be proud of.

They are the pride of their company officers who are already known to you, and who feel fortified to tackle any job that has to do with the elimination of the Hun from his long cherished hope to seize by force a place in the Sun. To quote an expression of opinion of the above officers is to only repeat my own, and again assure you that the New York Telephone Company gave to Uncle Sam the right men in the right place.

The non-commissioned officers are capable, energetic men of clean habits and thoroughly versed in their duties. Such men as M. S. E.'s Tongue and Banks, Sergeants 1 cl. Loughlin, McDowell, Mulholland, and Kennedy are a credit to the Signal Corps and the Army, and it is due to such men that the Signal Corps has been able to work the wonders that have helped to make the Allied cause successful.

Accept the wishes of the men of this Battalion for your good health and happiness, and extend the same to the officials and employees of the districts from which these men come.

W. C. BARBOUR,
Major, Signal Corps,
Comdg. 403d Tel. B'n, S. C., U. S. A.

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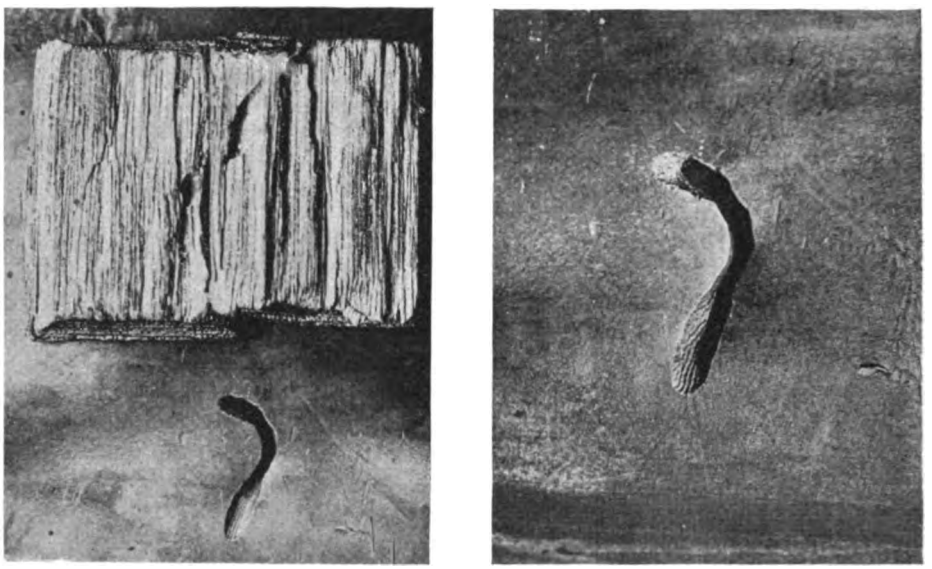
Beetle Eats Hole in Cable

A CASE of trouble, recently cleared on the New York-Catskill toll cable, was found to have been caused by some wood-boring insect, probably a beetle, which bored a hole through the sheath of the cable. The illustrations show the result of this insect's appetite for lead cable sheath.

This trouble was found in a stub cable, running vertically on the pole, and clamped tightly to the pole. The supposition is that, sometime before the cable was placed, a beetle laid its eggs in a suitable crevice in the pole. After the cable had been installed, the eggs hatched, and, at a particular stage in its career, a young beetle became dissatisfied with its home in the pole, and started to eat its way out, finally coming to the cable. It is said that these insects have a habit of going straight ahead, no matter what difficulties are encountered. This particular beetle persisted until it penetrated the sheath, and came in contact with the outside layer of wires. But the beetle evidently decided that it would be hazardous to enter the maze of wires, or that it did not like the taste of copperr, for it turned around and bored its way out at a right angle to the direction of the original hole.

The rest of the story is well known to cable men. Water came in through the hole and trouble was reported, the investigation of which led to the obtaining of the sample of sheath and piece of wood shown in the photographs. This is the first case of trouble we know of, in the territory of the New York Telephone Company, that can be directly traced to the activities of a wood-boring insect. In some parts of the country, however, trouble caused by insects boring holes through the cable sheath is more or less common.



HOLES BORED IN TELEPHONE POLE AND CABLE SHEATH BY BEETLE

The first picture shows both the hole in a piece of wood removed from the pole, immediately in back of the point at which the hole in the sheath was found, and the hole in the sheath itself, a larger view of which (actual size) is given in the second picture

Organization Changes

Manhattan-Bronx Division

Traffic Department

Miss Anna Murphy, evening senior operator, Jersey Toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary F. O'Toole, supervisor, Jersey Toll, appointed senior supervisor.

Miss Charlotte Miller, evening senior operator, John, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Mary Kane, evening chief operator, Beekman, appointed assistant chief operator.

Miss Carolyn Strobel, senior operator, Vanderbilt, appointed supervisor.

Miss Josephine Sullivan, senior operator, Vanderbilt, appointed supervisor.

Mrs. Elizabeth Anker, supervisor, Greeley, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Rosetta V. Brady, supervisor, Bryant, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Nellie C. Clancy, evening senior operator, Harlem, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Florence Martin, evening senior operator, Harlem, appointed night supervisor.

Miss Mary M. Tisdell, supervisor, St. Nicholas, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Cecilia Kelly, senior operator, Westchester Toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Nellie Conway, evening supervisor, Intervale, appointed evening central office instructor.

Miss Helen Heiser, evening senior operator, Intervale, appointed evening supervisor.

Long Island Division

Traffic Department

Miss Myra R. Browne, night supervisor, Bay Ridge, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Edna Cantwell, evening senior operator, Greenpoint, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Cecelia Grant, evening senior operator, South, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Katherine Lynch, operator, Far Rockaway, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Anna Lackner, evening senior operator, Long Island Toll, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Margaret Smith, night senior operator, Jamaica, appointed night chief operator.

Miss Anna J. Redmond, evening senior operator, Long Island Toll, appointed evening supervisor.

New Jersey Division

Traffic Department

Miss Bertha L. DeHart, toll supervisor, New Brunswick, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Hazel A. Cronk, evening senior operator, New Brunswick, appointed central office instructor.

Miss Flora A. Cronk, evening toll operator, New Brunswick, appointed toll supervisor.

Miss Elizabeth H. LaFavire, senior operator, Plainfield, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Fannie E. Riederer, supervisor, Union, appointed chief operator, Cliffside.

Miss Antoinette Nolan, senior operator, Bergen, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Sadie A. Hughes, evening senior operator, Market central desk, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Anna E. Maguire, evening supervisor, Newark Toll, appointed evening chief operator.

Miss Mary M. Shine, evening senior operator, Orange, appointed evening supervisor.

Miss Lillian M. Richardson, senior operator. Passaic, appointed supervisor.

Miss Olive Lyons, information clerk, Market information bureau, appointed chief clerk.

Hudson Division

Traffic Department

Miss Mary M. Cassidy, senior operator, Albany, West, appointed evening supervisor.

Central Division

Plant Department

R. Wallace, clerk, Utica district, appointed insideman, Utica.

E. H. LaJuett, installer, Watertown, appointed repairman.

Western Division

Traffic Department

Miss Meryl Perkins, Rochester employee in Washington, evening toll operator, appointed supervisor.

Miss Etta H. Earl, supervisor, Buffalo operators' training department, appointed toll instructor.

Miss Jane F. Marchina appointed supervisor, Buffalo operators' training department.

Miss Lorraine A. Zimmerman appointed clerk, Seneca central office, Buffalo.

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The TREND of REGULATION

By R. V. Marye, General Attorney

The Police Power Is Paramount to Contracts Between Individuals

THE Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey authorized the Public Service Electric Company to increase its rates for electric power. Certain of the Company's consumers, who held contracts for service, made pursuant to the classified schedule of rates previously filed by the Company, and made subsequent to the passage of the Public Utilities Act, and prior to above determination of the Board, raised a question as to whether the new schedule of rates approved by the Board should apply to them.

The Board held that the settled law was that the interdiction of statute impairing the obligation of contracts did not prevent the State from exercising such powers as were vested in it for the promotion of the common weal, or were necessary for the general good of the public, even though contracts previously entered into between individuals might thereby be effected. This power, which in its various ramifications is known as the Police Power, is an exercise of the sovereign right of the government to protect the lives, health, morals, comfort, and general welfare of the people, and is paramount to any rights under contracts between individuals. It follows that the contracts in question are subject to the State's paramount power of regulations. The State's paramount right of control is a condition implied by law in all contracts of this character, even though not stipulated therein, and, therefore, the new schedule filed by the Company in accordance with said determination of the Commission, applied to all consumers, including those having such contracts.

The Doctrine That a Franchise Is a Contract Cannot Interfere with the State Police Power

THE Borough of Wilkinsburg protested to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania against a proposed increase in the rates of the Pittsburgh Railway Company, on the ground that it was violative of the terms of certain ordinances fixing the rates of fare under which said Company was granted consent to construct and operate its tracks within the Borough.

The Commission held that there could be no reasonable doubt that the Legislative intention was to make the Public Service Act the Supreme Law of the State in the regulation and supervision of Public Service Corporation, and that this being so it followed as a necessary sequence that all laws inconsistent with the powers thus conferred were repealed or supplied thereby. That, moreover, municipalities had not been invested either by the Constitution or by the Legislature with rate regulating authority. That a municipality could not by a contract in the nature of a franchise foreclose the exercise of the police power of the State unless clearly authorized to do so by the Supreme Legislative power. That there was a distinction between the power to fix rates by agreement, and the power to impose them compulsorily. That an agreement fixing rates might stand until the State with whom the compulsory authority rested interposed. That the municipality has no constitutional right to impose terms, violative of the constitutional powers. That it had accepted the railway's assent to the franchise grant with full knowledge that the State might at any time exercise its rights, and that there could be no impairment of the municipalities' contract rights upon the happening of such contingency.

That the legality of the rate charged by a utility could no longer be sustained upon the basis of contract, but must now stand at all times the acid test of reasonableness, and must be adjusted as equitably as possible between the different persons and the several localities served, so that the burden might not weigh more heavily upon one person or locality than upon others.

That there was nothing in the constitution to justify the implication of a power to the local authorities to exclusively control street railway companies through the medium of regulatory conditions annexed to their consent, and that the public policy of the State was certainly opposed to the existence of such a power.

The Fixing of Rates by Municipal Authority Is Contrary to the Public Policy of the State

THE Northwestern Electric Service Company submitted to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania for approval certain contracts whereby the Company was authorized to construct a system in the highways of the several townships and boroughs and to render service to the public therein. Each of these contracts contained a provision by which the Company agreed that its rates for house lighting and for street lighting should not exceed a maximum mentioned in the respective contracts.

The Commission held that the Legislature had established it for the purpose of regulating the rates to be charged by public service companies, and had delegated to it the exclusive power to determine what were the just and reasonable rates for service rendered by such companies at a particular time. That it was clear that it was the intention of the Legislature to place these matters exclusively within the power of the Commission, and that therefore action by local authorities which attempted to establish the rates to be charged by public service companies was contrary to the public policy of the commonwealth.

The Commission, therefore, held that since the contracts in question fixed the rates for service to the public, they could not be approved, and that the application must accordingly be denied.

Competition Places an Additional Burden Upon the Public

THE Northwestern Telephone Exchange Company and the Tri-State Telephone and Telegraph Company, which compete for business throughout the State of Minnesota, proposed to eliminate duplication of properties and investment by a plan whereby the Northwestern Company would acquire all property of the Tri-State Company in the northern part of the State,

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and whereby the Tri-State Company would acquire all property of the Northwestern Company in the southern part of the State. This plan was submitted to the Minnesota Railroad & Warehouse Commission for approval.

The Commission approved the application, pointing out that since State legislative enactments have placed the regulation of telephone rates in the hands of the Commission, all the causes that formerly gave rise to the demand for competitive conditions could not be adjusted through complaints to the Commission and by investigations and orders issued by the Commission. Competitive telephone conditions have given rise to the duplication of investment, and to much annoyance to the patrons of the companies. The duplication of both investment and organization of officials and employees has placed an additional financial burden upon the telephone public, and in many instances competition has developed extensive selling forces and agencies that have greatly added to the expense of operating.

The Burden of the War Must Be Divided Between the Public Utilities and Their Customers

THE Pacific Power and Light Company applied to the Public Utilities Commission of Idaho for approval of a schedule of proposed increase in rates for gas. The Commission held that since the Company's average profits for several years past has not been excessive, it should be permitted to increase its rates, but that it was not entitled in war time to earn dividends which would be deemed reasonable in normal times, since its stockholders must bear a portion of the increased burden incident to the war. The consumers must also bear part of the war burden, and the increased cost of coal necessarily used in the production of the supply with which they are served, may properly be imposed upon them.

Since It Costs More to Render Public Utility Service Under Present Conditions, the Users of Such Service Must Pay More

THE Oklahoma Corporation Commission authorized the Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company to establish a new scale of rates for electric current in Oklahoma City and vicinity. The figures submitted by the Company showed that it was not immune from the operation of the economic law which governs the affairs of mankind in general, and of the people of Oklahoma like the rest. The Commission points out that the man who builds a house finds the cost of materials and labor greater than that of a year or two ago. The man who buys groceries and clothing must pay more for these commodities than before. The man or corporation which is buying material and labor for the manufacture of electric current is in the same position, and it is inevitable that, while present conditions continue, the man who buys electric current must be confronted with the operation of the same law. It costs more to produce the commodity and, therefore, the purchaser of the commodity must pay more.

Telephone Company Presumed to Have Developed Methods Best Suited to the Handling of Its Business

J. L. ROEBUCK and other subscribers of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company complained to the Corporation Commission of Oklahoma that the service of said Company was inadequate. The evidence indicated that conditions in connection with long distance service were the principal sources of complaint. Witnesses for complainants suggested that much of the trouble would be overcome if the Company would change its method of handling long distance calls. The Company's witnesses testified that experience had demonstrated that the method employed contributed to both efficiency and economy.

The Commission held that the Company was presumed to have developed out of its experience the methods best suited for the handling of its business and to the interest of efficiency and economy, and that there was nothing in the record which would justify an order requiring that the lessons of such experience be disregarded by adopting a method contrary to the judgment of the Company. The Commission stated that it would enforce the furnishing of good service, but would leave with the Company the ways and means of providing such service.

Federal Legislation Has Not Taken from the State the Power to Regulate Intrastate Rates

PURSUANT to an order of the Federal Director-General of Railroads, the Bangor and Arostook Railroad Company presented a petition to the Public Utilities Commission of Maine, asking that it be authorized to increase its rates and that the increase become effective without giving the thirty days' notice required by the State law.

A letter accompanying the petition recited instruction to the Company from the Director of Traffic in Washington, "that no applications were to be filed with State Commissions relative to the increases, and that all pending applications must be withdrawn, since the form in which the tariffs are to be filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission automatically increases the intrastate rates, in effect June 25, 1918."

The Commission denied the petition, stating that there was a sharp distinction between the operation of railroads and the regulation of their rates. That the recent Federal legislation had substituted Federal officials for the railroad corporations in the operation of the railroads, and had altered the power of the Interstate Commerce Commission as a regulatory branch of the Government. That said Commission's authority had never extended to intrastate rates, except where local practice interfered with interstate traffic. That Congress had not taken away from the States the regulation of matters of purely local concern, and had not intended to do so. That intrastate rates were purely of local concern, unless they put an undue burden upon interstate traffic or discriminated against it.

If increased intrastate rates are to be put into effect without any new filing with state commissions, and with no official cancellation of rates now on file and effective under state statute until cancelled by a new filing, there will be a grave conflict with those provisions of the laws of the State, which fix penalties for giving and receiving service at rates other than those lawfully published and existing.

If the Commission permits the withdrawal of schedules now lawfully on file pending their becoming effective with the understanding that the rates therein named are to be imposed without any State filing, it practically concedes the right of the carriers to impose a rate for a shipment wholly within the State, different from that which under the laws of the State is the only rate legally enforced, and there would be some reason to say that the Commission had connived at unlawful acts.

The Commission states that it does not wish to be understood as criticising the present Federal Administration of the railroads or as being reluctant to coöperate whenever it can. It does not, however, think that orderly recognition of state statute can in any way conflict with the public welfare.

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ROLL OF HONOR

EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY
IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE following ROLL OF HONOR is supplemental to the lists printed in THE TELEPHONE REVIEW of February and November, 1918, making a total of 2,097 names of men of the NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY in the various branches of the Army and Navy of the UNITED STATES and the ALLIES.

Manhattan, Bronx and Westchester Division

Ahrens, L.
Albers, W. H.
Bancker, H.
Bange, C. W.
Bassler, W. A.
Belivian, V. A.
Bernstein, A. W.
Bogue, H.
Botsford, C. F.
Dobriner, A.
Gavagan, G. W.
Haberstumpf, J.
Lang, G. S.
Lemler, M.
Macdonald, R. E.
McVeety, J. A.
Marra, E. J.
Martin, A. L.
Mealey, F. F.
Meyer, M.
Nast, R.
Page, W.
Price, J. L.
Redmond, M. W.
Rohrecker, L. R.
Rolff, D.
Rosenkranz, G.
Rutter, L.
Schanz, C.
Schields, E.
Sormani, E.
Spielmann, P.
Spooner, E. B.
Spuller, E. J.
Toal, J.
Vannucchi, F.
Wilson, H. R.

Long Island Division

Anderson, R. A.
Eik, G.
Frye, R. G.
Heuer, V. D.
King, J. J.
Meehan, T. J.
Phillips, L.
Thaden, W. J.
Voges, F. R. W.
Wahl, G.
Wedekind, H. S.

New Jersey Division

Abbott, F. S.
Bolsover, E. C. J.
Campbell, J. M.
Clark, W. J.
Cleaver, E.
Feinhals, H. W.
Freeman, S. E.
Fuchs, T. J.
Guthrie, E. J.
Haines, M. V.
Handler, H.
Hansen, H.
Higgins, A. J.
Morlock, H.

Central Division

Burdick, H. L.
Eisenhart, D.
Hartjen, H. J.
Schuelke, T. H.

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Mulholland, W. H.
Stutz, N. O.
Unschuld, H.
Wagner, E. J.
Wrigley, W. E.

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THE TELEPHONE REVIEW
J. D. NEWMAN, Editor
Published Monthly by the

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W. T. GURNEE
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A. D. SCOVEL
Mgr. Traf. Inspection, M.-B.

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Hudson

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Albany

Central

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Division Supt. Traffic
321 Montgomery Street
Syracuse

Western

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Division Supt. Traffic
44 Church Street
Buffalo

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Auditor

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Auditor of Disbursements

A. J. NORMAN
Auditor of Receipts

B. M. WILSON
Chief Traveling Auditor

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It is more important than ever that telephone directories be kept handy for ready reference *near the telephone.*

To save equipment and labor, "Information" is now asking subscribers to look up numbers that can be found in the directory.

This necessary and important war-time request is being patriotically supported by our subscribers. It is estimated that a saving equal to the *entire time of 100 operators will be made.*

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Always Looking in the Directory for Numbers Before Calling "Information"?

NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

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